SUCIDE - 1940

2 MEN DIE IN LOS ANGELES SUICIDE PACT

Defender 8-17-40
Chicago Ill.

1 Takes Poison In Hotel Room; Friend Leaps 4 Floors To Death

LOS ANGELES.—(ANP)—Two men died in a downtown hotel last Friday in a strange suicide pact. They were Tom Winston, 45, and Bill White, 19. Both men committed suicide at a Japanese hotel.

Winston was first found in his room by the proprietor, who had begun to wonder at his non-appearance so late in the day. Sprawled in a chair beside a table, the man had been dead for several hours. In a glass near his hand were the remains of a deadly mixture of ant-paste and whiskey.

Under the glass was a note which read "This is the death cup. It is very bitter, but I drank it. It is the only way out.

The body was removed, and the excitement that had arisen in the neighborhood from the discovery died down until 7 o'clock that evening when it broke out anew. Just as the clock struck the hour, Bill White, in the adjoining room, crawled out on a balcony and in sight of scores of passersby leaped four floors down to the street. He died instantly, his body crumpled into a grotesque hulk.

With a few clues to work on, investigators from the coroner's and the district attorney's office decided that the two men must have agreed upon a suicide pact. They were friends and had arrived in town but a few days previously registering at the hotel together.

Police have decided that if nothing can be found to indicate that they were fugitives from justice and chose death to "beat the rap" then despondency over their evident poverty must have goaded them to their acts.

3rd Suicide Death Rocks Greenville

Defender 8-17-40
Chicago Ill.

GREENVILLE, S. C.—The spell of murder suicides among Greenville citizens is believed to be broken with the suicide of Wendell Thompson. Staid citizens firmly believe in the rule of three. That all unusual crimes and killings run in threes, is a belief among a number of both white and colored folk. Thompson killed himself last Saturday.

The epidemic of murder suicides started three months ago with the suicide of Juan Molina, Race architect who shot and killed himself after shooting his paramour, Miss Alberta Mack.

On July 4, Wendell Thompson killed his father-in-law after wounding his wife. Released on bond awaiting trial, Thompson in a fit of remorse, killed himself 30 days (that three again) after the murder of his father-in-law. The coroner said that Thompson left several notes apologizing to his parents for causing them so much trouble.

It will be a long time before Carolina colored folks agree with the charge that southern Negroes do not kill themselves.

Another Suicide In Greenville

Chicago Defender 8-17-40

GREENVILLE, S. C. (ANP)—The spell of murder suicide among Greenville Negroes has been broken. Staid citizens firmly believe in the rule of three. That all unusual crimes and killings run in threes, is a belief among a number of both white and colored folk.

With the suicide of Wendell Thompson last Saturday, the third in three months, the book is closed and there will be no more for a long time.

The epidemic of murder suicide started three months ago with the suicide of Juan Molina, colored architect who shot and killed himself after shooting his paramour, Miss Alberta Mack.

On July 4, Wendell Thompson killed his father-in-law after wounding his wife. Released on bond awaiting trial, Thompson in a fit of remorse, killed himself 30 days (that three again) after the murder of his father-in-law. The coroner said that Thompson left several notes apologizing to his parents for causing them so much trouble.

It will be a long time before Carolina colored folks agree with the charge that southern Negroes do not kill themselves.

19 YEARS OLD; JUMPS IN FRONT OF 'L' TRAIN

Chicago Defender 8-17-40

Despondent Over Love Affair

Suicide, caused by despondency over an unsuccessful love affair was the decision in the inquest of Wm. Mae Pettigrew, 19, 619 E. 50th street, held Tuesday morning at the Calhoun morgue.

Miss Pettigrew was killed instantly when she leaped in front of a northbound "L" at the 51st street "L" station, Monday at noontime.

Leaps in Front of "L"

According to witnesses, Charles Grimn and Jerry Reilly, the girl was evidently waiting for the northbound "L". As it neared her she leaped in front of it and was instantly crushed to death. The motorman on the "L" told police that there was no way he could avoid hitting the girl as he had struck her before the "L" came to a standstill.

At the inquest, friends of the girl stated that she had been despondent for some time. She was unemployed and had been brooding for sometime over a love affair.

Heroic Cop Snatches Attempted Suicide From Perch On Ledge

Defender 8-17-40

Defying death from the perilous rooftop of a four-story building at 427 Albee Square, Patrolman Nathan Goldman, attached to Emergency Squad No. 15, last week snatched a young Negro would-be suicide from danger while an immense crowd of spectators looked on from the street, aghast.

The attempted suicide was staged by a woman who identified herself as Helen Cook, 25, of the Albee Square address who went to the four story building of the same house and lowered herself by the hands from the top ledge. Swinging her legs across a three-foot alley, she braced her feet against the wall of the building opposite and then, in a horizontal position began making her tortuous way down the walls. hand over hand and foot by foot.

Reaching a point ten feet below the roofs, she threatened to jump. Neighbors and police failed in their efforts to coax her out of the notion.

Patrolman Goldman entered the scene, had himself lowered over the edge of the roof by seven other policemen, wrapped his arms and legs around her body and broke her holds on the building wall.

With the woman struggling violently, the two were lowered forty feet to the alley below. The woman was sent to Bellevue Hospital's psycopathic ward for observation.

POLICE LIST JOHN HARRIS AS SUICIDE

Chicago Defender 8-17-40

Police investigating the mysterious death of John Harris, 58, of 1113 Lombard street, who was found hanging by the neck in a closet of his room last Sunday, police and the Coroner's office are conducting a thorough investigation.

"It's still a mystery to us," Homicide Squad detectives and Coroner's deputies said Tuesday morning. "He was just found hanging there, wasn't a note or anything."

But after questioning the janitor at Harris' hotel, a rooming house, and a woman roomer, they listed the dead man's death as a case of suicide.

According to Deputy Coroner Coughlin, Harris' body was found swinging from a rope in his room by Reuben Swanson, the janitor. He reported his findings to police at the 12th and Pine streets station, and Harris was rushed to the Pennsylvania Hospital, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Further investigation revealed that Harris was first discovered by Miss Mary Jones, a roomer, who called Swanson. She told police that she went to Harris' room seeking a match.

Why Harris would take his own life is what baffled police. As far as they could determine he was in good health and is said to have been working.

Up to Tuesday night, however, his body had not been claimed at the morgue, 13th and Wood streets, and police were endeavoring to locate his relatives.

Seeks Life Of Another, Then Takes Her Own

Elizabeth City Woman Dies In Unusual Tragedy

(Special to Journal and Guide)

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.—Soon after she had fired at but missed another woman, but wounded a male bystander, and while police were pounding at her bedroom door, Miss Naomi Simons, 27, fatally wounded herself last week with a pistol.

The girl shot herself at her residence in the 900 block of Southern Avenue Wednesday, about two p. m., dying at 6:25 in a local hospital.

The bullet she fired into herself plowshed through her stomach, out of her back, and into the mattress of her bed.

TWO NOTES LEFT

Miss Simons left two notes, police revealed. In one she stated that she had "wanted to kill Mrs. Ruth Beatrice Woodhouse Doxey" and since "I missed her so I am taking my own life."

The version of this note given the press ended: "If I can get back I will 'hant' her as long as she lives." Along the margin of this note the dead girl had scrawled: "And I did intend to get Thelma Lewis."

This note was not addressed to any special person, but there was a second note addressed to her mother, which indicated that jealousy on the part of Miss Simons for the friendship of the other two women motivated her attempt to shoot Mrs. Doxey and end her own life. Mrs. Doxey lives next door to where Miss Simons lived.

FIRED FIVE TIMES

Miss Simons fired at Mrs. Doxey five times, missing her but wounding Edward Askew, who was walking on the sidewalk about half a block away. He was not seriously hurt and was outside when she later shot herself.

Police were called but had to return for a search warrant before entering the house, where Miss Simons had barricaded herself in her room. Policemen Baum and Benny Halstead secured the warrant and entered the house while a crowd gathered.

When they called to her to come out of the room, she said she would. Then the officers heard what they recognized as the pistol clicking on empty shells. As they kicked down the door, with drawn pistols, a shot rang out inside.

ALL TEACHERS

Miss Simmons was found on the bed, profusely bleeding.

She had no family living here and was rooming at the house where she killed herself.

Miss Simons had lived for many years in Currituck County with her mother. She is a graduate of the local State Teachers College and taught in Hertford County. She had attended summer school at the local college for the first six-week session. The other two women are also teachers.

VICTIM LISTED AS SUICIDE BY LOCAL POLICE

Death of Second Woman, Mother of Four, Also Probed

A glamorous looking member of Sugar Hill's cafe society, who was never gay unless visiting a cabaret, met instant death last Saturday when her body crashed to the sidewalk in front of 409 Edgecombe Ave., leaving only a few clues as to the reason.

She was immediately identified by neighbors as Catherine Burton, 22, of 672 St. Nicholas Ave.

Four hours later, the body of Mrs. Minnie Anderson, 40, 727 St. Nicholas Ave., was found in a side entrance areaway to her home. The mother of four children, Mrs. Anderson's tragic death is shrouded in mystery.

Police believe that both women took their own lives. A report at the W. 152nd street station listed the deaths as "jumped or fell." But neighbors believe otherwise. They suspect foul play in at least one instance, but reporters failed to find a single person who would back up that opinion with the statements for the record.

Lives in Mt. Vernon

Miss Burton's relatives, including her mother, live in Mt. Vernon. Funeral services were held there Tuesday night at Grace Baptist Church.

The attractive young woman was sitting in the 721 Club only an hour before her death. To the entertainer, singing, she asked for another song and then left.

But before leaving she took out a pencil and wrote a note, hurriedly putting both back into her purse, according to a friend, Artie Beasley. With Miss Beasley and an unidentified male escort, they got a cab and asked the driver to take them to 409.

On their arrival in front of the fashionable apartment house, where many of Harlem's leading socialites live, Miss Burton got out and went inside.

"I'll be right down in 10 minutes," she called back. Seven minutes later, her body hit the sidewalk only a few feet away from the cab. The male escort leaped from the cab and disappeared. Miss Beasley remained on the scene.

When the victim's purse was opened later, Miss Beasley says, the note was found. In it she expressed disappointment with both her "family and a sweetheart."

Mrs. Anderson left no note, police say, even though Detective Garvey, of the W. 152nd St. station, referred to her death as suicide. Neighbors at that address told of a violent argument heard in the Anderson apartment shortly before midnight last Friday.

Whether Detective Garvey learned about this was not known. He refused to discuss the case with reporters. The woman's brother, Percy Jackson, discovered the body. Her husband, Arthur, and the couple's four children, were said to be asleep at the time.

Accuses Husband

Last Wednesday, Mrs. Helen Yearby, 32, of 62 E. 130th St., reported to police that her husband, Robert, had tried to throw her out of a window during an argument in their apartment.

Her screams attracted neighbors, but not before the woman had been slashed three times with a can opener. Yearby is being held without bail on a felonious assault charge, following a hearing in Felony Court.

Leap to Death In Harlem

1 Woman Jumps From Roof of 14-Story Building

NEW YORK—Harlemites who want to end it all because they are disillusioned with life are following each other to the community's tallest structure—No. 409 Edgecombe Ave.—as a spot as good as any to jump out of this world.

The latest victim, the third since the swank apartment house was opened to Negroes a few years ago, was 22-year-old Catherine Burton, who committed suicide early Saturday morning by jumping from the roof of the fourteen-story building.

Like the other two victims, Miss Burton had to make a special trip to No. 409 in order to keep her rendezvous with death. She has been making her home ten blocks away, 672 St. Nicholas Ave.

The body was removed to the Amsterdam Avenue station house where it was identified three hours later by a brother, Alonzo Burton, of 219 So. Eighth Ave., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Another woman, Minnie Anderson, 40, of 727 St. Nicholas Ave., also jumped to her death from a first floor window at the above address, landing in a courtyard. She was identified by her husband, Arthur, and a brother, Percy Jackson.

SUICIDE WAVE STRIKES SOUTH SIDE; 1 DEAD

Three Drink Poison, One Leaps and Another Turns On Gas

One person is dead and four others are in critical conditions this week as result of a wave of suicide attempts on Chicago's South side.

Mrs. Stella Brown, 35, of 4615 Indiana avenue, died at her home early Friday after swallowing lysol while despondent over ill health and family troubles. The body was moved to Rainey Funeral Home, 5452 State street.

Early Wednesday morning Mrs. Sophronia Storsworth, 46, of 4032 Indiana avenue, an invalid, leaped from a third floor rear porch of the building in which she resides, in an effort to kill herself while brooding over her affliction. The woman sustained fractures of the ribs and pelvis and internal injuries.

Mrs. Willie Mae Bolden, 30, of 522 East Thirty-fourth street, is in a critical condition at Cook county hospital after swallowing lysol at her home Tuesday afternoon while brooding over a recent estrangement from her husband, Henry.

Miss Leeta Jackson, 27, of 5042 Dearborn street, was treated at Provident hospital Monday, after she drank three ounces of a corrosive disinfectant in a suicide attempt at her home. Police learned that Miss Jackson and her boyfriend whom she refused to name, had had a quarrel shortly before she drank the poison.

Early Sunday morning police were called to the home of Tony Rhinehart, 40, of 4330 Michigan avenue, a bricklayer, who after drinking himself into a stupor, turned on the burners of a gas stove in his apartment and laid down in bed to await the end. Through artificial respiration police succeeded in reviving the victim. No motive was given by Rhinehart.

SUICIDE- 1940

Suicide Throws Spotlight on N.Y. Hospitals' Inadequacy

By Angelo Herndon

There are no West Walls or Maginot Lines to prevent the LaGuardia administration from providing adequate hospitalization and health facilities for the citizens of New York.

Yet the gross negligence and careless disregard for the protection of the health and lives of the poor people at home, does not seem to arouse even the slightest interest of the Mayor who has been working himself into a lather recently about the wanton destruction of human life in Europe.

The Mayor recently struck upon a high note of war hysteria when he called for more, bigger and better anti-air craft guns for Coney Island to "protect" the lives of New Yorkers from foreign "invasion." But how [illegible] the Mayor's sentitive feelings and deep concern for human life reacted to the shocking and scandalous situation existing at Harlem Hospital?

The death of Mrs. Ethel Howard, a pneumonia-cardiac patient, who committed suicide on May 20th by jumping from the fifth story to the ground, is believed by friends and relatives of the deceased woman to be one of the worst cases of negligence ever committed at Harlem Hospital.

According to Mr. James Goodman, 251 W. 121 St., Mrs. Marion Robinson, 278 W. 119 St., both friends of Mrs. Howard, and her brother, John Brown, the official versions given as to the cause of this tragic death, vary with time and facts.

It is reported that hospital officials maintain that Mrs. Howard had become mentally deranged and that she was left in the class room in straight-jackets on May 20th while the attending physician was on a lower floor waiting for a release order to transfer her to Bellevue for observation.

While in the room Mrs. Howard is supposed to have released herself from the straight-jackets after which she opened the window and plunged to her death. News of her death reached her relatives and friends about 2:30 that afternoon through a New York Age reporter.

In a letter to Mayor LaGuardia Mr. Brown holds that his sister jumped out of the room at 12:30 noon when nurses were supposed to have been busy feeding the patients. But at a hearing this week of Department of Hospital investigators, it was alleged, Mr. Goodman said, that Mrs. Howard jumped to her death around 2:30 or 3 o'clock.

Mr. Brown's letter to Mayor LaGuardia, dated May 21, makes the following charges:

"I am Mrs. Ethel Howard's brother that was killed in Harlem Hospital on May 20, 1940 at 12:30 P. M. Now Mr. Mayor LaGuardia, I would like for you to look into this case because I am not satisfied with what they told me. You see, Mrs. Ethel Howard only weighed 107 pounds and when I went to see her you had to handle her l i k e a child. So what they told me I don't believe it. There is something wrong somewhere."

At the hearing, Mr. Goodman said, one of the attending physicians said a nurse had struggled w i t h Mrs. Howard, who was in straight-jackets and who had not been able to get out of bed for more than a month. The superintendent of the hospital, Mr. Goodman further elaborated, said she was left in the class room alone and that there was no knowledge of the suicide until the doctor had returned to the room to take her o Bellevue.

On May 17th, Mr. Goodman said, he visited Mrs. Howard and that she appeared to be on the road to recovery.

Mr. Goodman also charged that Mrs. Howard no doubt had become upset because the doctors were constantly worrying her about undergoing an operation to which she was opposed.

Mrs. Robinson said that "the poor woman was tired of them sticking needles in her all the time. They once broke a needle in her arm and it was swollen up for a long time. It's the hospital's fault because they didn't do nothing but worry her all the time.

"When I went to see her on the 14th, there didn't seem to be anything wrong with her mentally. She was looking forward to coming home to her three children. All she lived for was those children. Something should be done to make them take care of the children."

If Mrs. Howard was delirious, as hospital officails claim, why was she left in a room alone? If it is true that she was in a weakened condition and tied in straight-jackets, how is it possible that she could have freed herself? If the suicide took place at 12:30 noon why weren't the relatives notified immediately by the hospital instead of at 2:30 or 3 o'clock by a newspaper reporter?

Such charges of gross negligence must be explained by the Department of Hospitals and the LaGuardia administration. The case of Mrs. Howard brings to the attention of the public once again the shocking conditions obtaining at Harlem Hospital and other hospitals throughout the city.

From three to four doctors are given two hours to treat 200 and 300 persons. What happens as a result of this is obvious. The doctors and nurses are so overworked that they are compelled to regard every patient as just another number instead of human beings.

Only an indignant and aroused public can force the city fathers to give serious and immediate consideration to the great problem of the people's health. Friends and relatives of Mrs. Howard said they are determined to make those responsible for her eath take care of her three orphaned children as well as pay for funeral expenses which none of them are able to do.

The three children, Doris, 15; Billie, 10 and Junior, 14, are left alone without anyone to care for them. At present, they have to depend upon what little food they can get from Mr. Brown, Goodman, and Mrs. Robinson.

The entire city should join in the effort of these people to get at the bottom of and correct this scandalous situation.

Above are the three children of Mrs. Howard who's suicide at Harlem Hospital is charged to improper attention. They are left to right, Robert, 13; Doris, 16 and William, 11. Mrs. Howard is below.

—Sunday Worker Photos

Young Farmer Kills Wife And Takes Own Life

LOUISVILLE, Ga. — Willie G Bird, a youthful Glascock county farmer, shot his wife, Dora, 17, to death and then took his own life near here early Sunday, May 12 after failure of efforts to make up.

According to reports from Jefferson county sheriff, James Hubbard Mrs. Bird left her husband a short while ago and came to live with a sister on a farm about 10 miles from here. Saturday night he went to see his wife and asked her to come back home, but she refused.

Hubbard then went to the home of a neighbor and spent the night. Sunday morning he came back to where she was stopping and made another appeal. She refused again. He told her he would have to start work and asked her to kiss him goodbye. She refused.

He then returned to where he spent the night and got a shotgun and returned to his wife's house. He shot her in the head, went out into the yard, sat down, put the shotgun in his mouth and pulled the trigger.

Fiance Of Woman Suicide Asks Mayor LaGuardia For Investigation

Harlem Hospital's administration was attacked on two sides as The New York Age went to press.

The family of Mrs. Ethel Howard, pneumonia-cardiac patient who committed suicide last week, wrote Mayor LaGuardia demanding an investigation of alleged irregularities at the hospital which ended with Mrs. Howard's tragic death.

And The New York Age filed charges with the Inspection Division of the Department of Hospitals that a laundry worker had been fired by Dr. Israel Magelaner, hospital superintendent, because he was suspected of giving information to this paper.

The request for another investigation of the hospital was made by James Goodman of 251 West 121st street, fiance of the suicide. He accused hospital authorities of laxity in the care of Mrs. Ethel Howard whose suicide there last Monday was the second in three months.

Goodman charged that from the very first visit of Mrs. Howard to Harlem Hospital's Clinic, she was improperly treated. He said that Mrs. Howard was told in the clinic that there was nothing wrong with her when she sought treatment on March 21 and that as she started to go home she collapsed, falling to the floor unconscious. Upon examination she was found to have double pneumonia, and was removed from the clinic to the hospital proper and put in an oxygen tent.

"From then on, she was confined to bed and was too weak to get up," he said. "They said that she was delirious. Now why would they take a delirious person and put her near a window? They also said she was tied to bed. Now it doesn't make sense that they would leave a delirious person near an open window and let her stay unguarded long enough for her to untie the straps and jump out of the window. Does it?

"When Mrs. Howard's daughter, Doris, 15, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Josephine Brown, went to the ward after the suicide to talk to a woman whose bed was next to hers (Mrs. Howard's) the nurses ran them out of the ward. This same woman was beaten in the hospital only recently. They don't treat people right in that hospital and that's why we wrote Mayor LaGuardia asking him to investigate the hospital," he concluded.

Laundry Worker Fired

On Thursday, Ludlow W. Werner, managing editor of The New York Age, filed charges with the Hospital Department, that Robert Montgomery, of 36 St. Nicholas place, had been fired form the hospital by Dr. Israel Magelaner, superintendent, as an obvious punishment of the laundry worker for having visited The New York Age on Tuesday afternoon.

The dismissal of Montgomery followed less than 24 hours after Julius Brown, head of the General inspection Division of the Department of Hospitals, assured The Age that his office would tolerate no reprisals against any hospital employee giving information which would be useful in the investigation of the hospital's laundry department.

This assurance was given after Mr. Brown was asked to send Mrs. Hayes, one of the investigators, to The New York Age office to interview an employee who had information to give concerning the laundry, but was unable to speak to her at the hospital in the presence of superiors. When it was declared that Mrs. Hayes was too busy to leave the hospital the matter was deferred. In the meantime, however, a check was made by hospital authorities and it was learned that the only person who was absent at that time was Montgomery who was docked a half-day allegedly because he was 15 minutes late returning from lunch.

ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

GOLDSBORO, N. C., (ANP)—Sylvester Woodard, who shot and killed two persons, Lillie Bell Townsend and George Howell, last week, attempted suicide in the Wayne County jail by slashing his neck and left arm with a safety razor blade. It is thought he will recover.

Henry Gaither, 31, Is Reported As Suicide

Daily World 7/1/40 Atlanta, Ga. 39

Henry Gaither, 31, residing at 185 Hilliard Street, NE, drank a potion of lysol Sunday at eleven o'clock. He was discovered attempting to get into his house by Georgia Brewer, 183 Hilliard as, he stumbled to the front door. She immediately called Willie Lee who also lives at 183 Hilliard.

Mr. Lee rushed the victim to Grady where, despite every effort to save his life, he passed away at five o'clock Sunday afternoon. Mystery cloaks the reason for his decision to take his own life. A few personal effects were found on his bed and cash in the amount of one dollar and twenty-eight cents.

OFFICERS SHOOTS MAN

Two police patrol cars, No. 13 and No. 15, figured in the reportedly accidental shooting of James Walker, 29, of 362 Boulevard at 2:25 A.M. Sunday morning.

Car 15 noticed Walker standing in back of retail stores on the corner of Edgewood and Daniel. According to their version of the affair, he ran between some houses in the rear and came out on Boulevard only to run into car 13.

Officers of car 13 gave chase and claim that they did not know that car 15 was after the fugitive and had shot into the ground once in an effort to make him halt. Walker, according to officers, fled again and crossed Gartrell and that another shot was fired into the ground but miraculously hit the curb and ricocheted and struck the fleeing Walker in the right hip. A flesh wound resulted and after being treated at Grady the victim was locked up on disorderly conduct and prowling charges.

ANOTHER VICTIM

Police officers reported finding Eli Russell, 40, 467 North Avenue, at 2:15 a. m. Sunday in the streets bleeding profusedly. At Grady he was treated for knife wounds about the neck and arms. Although the victim could give no details on how he was attacked, police subsequently locked up Morris Jackson, 24, of the same North avenue address as assailant.

Negro Boy Leaps To Death In River

Atlanta, Ga. 7/3/40 Morning

"Watch me! Watch me!" a negro identified as George Brown, 12, leaped from a cliff into waters of the Alabama River yesterday and failed to come up.

About 30 minutes later, his body was recovered by companions dragging the river.

Radio Patrolmen Hamilton and Jamison, who investigated the case, said Brown was playing on the river bank near First Avenue, West End, about 4:30 p.m., while John Meadows, another small negro, fished.

Meadows told them he was surprised when Brown announced his intention of jumping from the high bank since, he said, the latter couldn't swim.

Meadows was almost drowned when he attempted to save his companion. A crowd of white boys and negroes, summoned by Meadows's screams for help, located the body in 18 feet of water.

The patrolmen administered artificial respiration to no avail. They said the negro had leaped in a deep eddy and for that reason was not taken off by the current.

Stabs Sweetheart; Thinking Wounds, Laborer Takes His Own Life

RIVERHEAD, L.I., N.Y. Aug. 31, 1940-An hour after he had allegedly stabbed his sweetheart a young laborer, resident of this quiet community, staggered into a patch of woods and shot and killed himself, sick with remorse and the mistaken impression that hew was a murderer.

Police found the body of the penitent suicide, Harold Cruse, 24, lying in the bushes near his home on Quogue road, Riverside, shortly after the stabbing of Marie Hatcher 22, of Aquebogue. Police chief Thomas J. Walker of Riverside town told newspapers Cruse evidently feared he had killed Miss Hatcher, whose interest in him had cooled.

Miss Hatcher was not seriously hurt, however, and remained at home after treatment by local physician for cuts of the throat and cheek.

Source: New York Age---
New York, N. Y.
Aug. 31, 1940

SUICIDE-1940

Two Suicides In Week Stir Washington

Perry Howard's Son Latest To Take Own Life

(Reprinted from last week's Late Edition)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Two suicides by members of well-known families within a week have excited capital residents and diverted attention for the time being from Japanese cherry blossoms and politics.

The latest fatality was that of Lucas Howard, son of Perry W. Howard, grand legal adviser of Elks and national Republican committeeman from Mississipi, who shot himself to death in his father's home, in the 1800 block of S Street, N.W., Wednesday.

KILLS NEPHEW, SELF

Six days previously, Samuel Keys, 45, prominent figure in business and sporting circles and proprietor of Keys' Coffee Shop, 1853 Seventh Street, N.W., shot and killed his nephew, Edward Camp, 21, then took his own life.

Mr. Keys was a Virginian and had attended Hampton Institute.

The Keys tragedy occurred at his residence, 1857 California St. N. W., allegedly following an argument over business matters. Earlier, Keys, his nephew, and his niece, Miss Callie Camp, 22, are said to have attended a cabaret party given by the Lichtman Theatre at the Lincoln Colonnade.

SLAPPED NIECE

When they went home, Keys is reported to have engaged in an argument with Miss Camp, an employee at the restaurant, and slapped her. When her brother intervened, Keys is said to have shot him.

When officers arrived and began a search for the weapon, Keys is reported to have broken loose from them and grabbed the revolver hidden under the bedclothes and shot himself in the head before he could be reached.

ATTENDED HAMPTON

Keys was born in Staunton, Va., and attended Hampton Institute. He lived in Baltimore for many years, operating the Penn Hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue.

He had lived here since 1933, and operated the Seventh Street business for the past five years. It is a popular rendezvous for theatrical and sporting figures. Keys' former wife is remarried and lives in Baltimore.

Young Camp was doorman at the Lincoln Theatre at the time of his death. He formerly lived in Baltimore, where he attended school.

VALUE OF SUICIDE'S ESTATE IS UNKNOWN

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 2—The value of the estate of the late Samuel W. Keys, who murdered Edward Camp, his nephew, and later fatally shot himself, is problematic, according to the petition of Mrs. Louise N. Keys, his widow, for letters of administration on his estate.

His estate consists of the coffee shop, his widow states, but he did not own any of the equipment. She says he operated it under a lease which will expire on October 14, 1942.

Mr. Keys also left an automobile valued at $500. His debts total $2,100 in addition to funeral expenses of $400.

Keys committed suicide on April 4. His heirs-at-law, besides his widow, are: Rice Keys, a brother, Saunton, Va.; John Keys, brother, Pittsburgh; Emma Vaughn, sister, Staunton, Va.; Edna May Vaughn, sister, Baltimore, and Virginia Keys, a sister, living in Cleveland, Ohio, whose married name is unknown.

DESPONDENT MATRON ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Found In A Gas Filled Apartment

Donaldson Discovers Act In Nick of Time

In a fit of despondency, Mrs. Amanda Donaldson, 32 years old, attempted to end her life in her apartment at 2420a Whittier St., Monday morning. Only the timely arrival of her husband, William Wilson Donaldson, 45-year old custodian at the Cottage avenue School and well known baseball umpire, prevented her from carrying out her plan.

Donaldson, who left for work about 6:00 a.m. returned about 11:00 a.m. to find the apartment filled with gas and his wife lying unconscious on the kitchen floor. Two unlighted gas jets on the kitchen stove were turned on.

Rescuers Work Fast

Acting quickly, Donaldson summoned the janitor, James Pettis, and with his assistance conveyed Mrs. Donaldson outside then called an inhalator crew and doctor from the firehouse and hospital, both of which are only a block away.

The inhalator crew assisted by Dr. Frederick Douglass worked on Mrs. Donaldson about 20 minutes, consuming about three fourths of a tank of oxygen. She was then taken to Phillips Hospital, where she was pronounced suffering from illuminating gas poisoning, serious.

Find Note

A note written in lead pencil was found on the sink in the kitchen of the apartment. It read:

"Billy, Dear, this is the last note. It is 15 minutes to 10. Give Daisy the fish and fish food—everything in place—love to you always and be brave and don't worry—put God in front and may God bless you. You see, Billy, I want you to enjoy some of the things in life, too Baby, don't worry after I've gone—your wife, Amanda."

Donaldson stated that he could give no reason why his wife would desire to end her life.

LEAVES NOTE IN WHICH HE EXPLAINS ACT

Was 3rd Attempt to End Life, Say

Ill health, and an unrequited love affair are said to have caused James Goins, 37, of 4609 Indiana avenue, to take his own life in the basement of the apartment building in which he was living, Monday afternoon.

Goin's body was found dangling from pipes running across the ceiling in the basement of the apartment building at 4607-09 Indiana avenue, Monday at 4 o'clock by the janitor, John Markel.

Police were notified and the body removed to Provident hospital where doctors pronounced the victim dead by strangulation. A verdict of "suicide while despondent" was returned at the inquest Tuesday morning.

Native of Pennsylvania

Goins, a native of Oakville, Pa., came to Chicago some years ago, it was stated. He had been in ill health for some time, suffering with stomach trouble, the dead man's sister, Mrs. Irene Tibbs, 4631 Prairie avenue, told police.

It was also revealed that he had attempted to take his life on a previous occasion, when about a month ago he drank lysol.

Monday, however, he went into the basement of the apartment building and made a noose by fastening a rope across pipes running lengthwise of the ceiling. When Markel found the body he was believed to have been dead for sometime.

Leaves Suicide Note

The suicide victim left a note in which he mentioned a love affair, his illness and the decision to "get rid of himself." This was his third attempt to end his life police stated.

Funeral services for Goins were held this morning (Thursday) in the chapel of the Metropolitan Funeral System on East 47th street. Interment was in Burr Oak cemetery. As far as is known there is only one survivor, a sister Mrs. Irene Tibbs. Goins was not married.

Architect Kills Teacher And Self In Lovers' Quarrel

Juan Molina, Cuban, Building Designer and Prizefighters' Manager, Ends Hectic Romance with Pistol.

GREENVILLE, S. C., May 9. (ANP)—Murder and suicide snuffed out the lives of two of Greenville's prominent residents Sunday. Juan Henito Molina, 42, only Negro architect in this section, shot and killed Miss Marie Knight, a teacher in the city schools, and then put an end to his own pains.

The shooting was the result of a series of lovers' quarrels which had been the talk of Greenville's upper crust for several weeks. Molina and Miss Knight had been friends for years and the double killing shocked the entire community.

Molina, a native of Cuba and a graduate of the University of Havana, was an outstanding architect and a number of churches and residences here in North Carolina attested to his ability. He was also a manager of boxers and a promoter of prize fights. He started such fighters as "Schoolboy" Cook, "Hotdog" Powell and "Newsboy" Brown on their fistic careers.

Miss Knight, a resident of Orangeburg, S.C., had taught in the local school for a number of years

Two Mothers Try Suicide

KANSAS CITY, Mo.— (Special) —Two mothers tried to commit suicide by drinking poison this week. Both were treated at General hospital No. 2 but neither took enough poison to cause serious injury.

Mrs. Esther C. Perry, 2315 Park avenue, drank a poisonous solution Sunday, April 28, while visiting her uncle, 2219 Brooklyn avenue. Her husband, George R. Perry, and Mr. Myers were sitting in the front room talking when Mrs. Perry walked in with a bottle of poison and drank part of it before they could stop her. The Perrys have been married 10 years and have four children.

Mrs. Evalena Giles, 2502 East Twentieth street, drank poison Saturday morning and gave some of the solution to her 3-year-old son Her mother, Mrs. Lena Tellington stopped her before she could drink an appreciable amount of the poison. Mrs. Giles said that she was despondent because she had no money.

Neighbors Foil Suicide Attempt

PHILADELPHIA. — The alert action of two suspicious neighbors near her Germantown beauty shop is said to have thwarted an attempt of Miss Dorothy Roberts, well known beautician, to commit suicide, Tuesday when they broke into her establishment and rushed her to the hospital.

Miss Roberts, who lives at 2336 N. Twentieth Street, was found sprawled unconscious across a chair in her gas-filled shop at 233 Coulter Street, by Leonzo Frazier, who has a barbershop next door, and Samuel Brown of 5340 Newhall Street. One jet was open.

Suicide Aroused

Noticing the queer actions of the young woman earlier in the day, Brown commented to his friend, and since it was rumored that she had tried to commit suicide once before, the two decided to keep a watch.

An hour later, sitting in Frazier's shop, the two men smelled gas and dashed next door, broke in the door, carried the unconscious woman outside and had her taken to the Germantown Hospital where she was treated and discharged.

Won't Reveal Motive

First reports blamed a broken romance, but subsequent rumors were to the effect that financial difficulties were the cause of the attempted suicide.

However, a relative, who identified herself as the victim's mother, admitted that an attempt had been made and that the young woman was confined to her home, but refused to divulge the cause.

Carolina Co-ed Takes Own Life

DURHAM, N.C., May 9—Annie Bell Flintall, 19-year-old senior of the North Carolina College for Negroes, died at Lincoln Hospital here at 3:10 a.m., Saturday as a result of self-inflicted gun wounds in her side.

Miss Flintall, who lived on Hanover street here, shot herself in the side Monday night, April 29. Earlier in the week she was administered a blood transfusion and apparently seemed to rally slightly, but throughout most of the week hospital attendants described her condition as serious.

Miss Flintall made no effort to live, and gave as her reason, her failure to graduate in June. However, little credence is given this testimony because she could have graduated in the summer session.

Movie Star's Sister Is Suicide

Race Woman's Curiosity Leads to Finding Dead Body of Mary Wong.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Aug. 1—Mrs. Carrie Arnett of this city lives the "good neighbor policy." She takes a friendly interest in the comings and goings, the big events and commonplaces in the lives of the people who live around her. She is the sort of woman who bakes cookies for the neighborhood children on Saturday, and from whom you can always borrow a cup of sugar.

It was Mrs. Arnett's friendly neighborliness that led her to the discovery of a tragedy last Friday. One of her neighbors was Mary Wong, 26-year-old sister of famed Chinese movie star, Anna May Wong. Mrs. Arnett became curious when she hadn't seen Mary for several days.

Thinking perhaps the girl was sick, she went over to investigate, and was horribly shocked when she found Mary Wong's lifeless form hanging from the rafters of her garage. She summoned James Lewis and High Wilson, also neighbors, to cut down the body.

It is believed the girl committed suicide because she was despondent over lack of employment.

Aid Family Of Parolee Who Committed Suicide

LOS ANGELES. — News that George Farley, serving a 10-year sentence for the rifle slaying of two white deputy marshals, had committed suicide at San Quentin penitentiary last Thursday brought shock and regret to his attorney, Loren Miller, who led a valiant fight to save him from execution.

On May 25, 1938, Farley in resisting eviction for back rent, had fired from his porch on his home and instantly killed Marshals Tom Crittenden and Leon H. Roma.

Although Farley was penniless, Miller volunteered to defend him and was joined in his legal efforts by Attys. Curtis Taylor and Grover Johnson. Metropolitan dailies took up the cudgel for Farley, denouncing the landlords who had ordered him and his family evicted, and calling him the "victim of economic injustice."

The defense won a great victory when the all-white jury, gave him 10 years for manslaughter, instead of sending him to the lethal gas chamber. However, they had hoped to get him free on a plea of "not guilty by reason of insanity." Immediately after his incarceration, Miller began working towards a parole.

According to prison officials, Farley suddenly broke from an orderly line of marching convicts, and with a scream leaped from the fifth story of a prison building.

His hurtling body struck another convict walking through the prison yard, and severely injured him. He had given no warning of his intention, and was regarded as a model prisoner.

FEW CATHOLIC SUICIDES!

SEP 19 1940

Suicide! It's all about us, yet 'midst the troubles of this age of ours, the self-destroying Catholic is a rarity. Proof of this is most conclusively given in a study of world suicides by Louis I. Dublin and Bessie Benzel, the former the statistician of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., and neither one a Catholic.

This book, entitled "To Be or Not to Be," shows that rate of suicides per 100,000 population is, in Protestant European countries, from 15 to 2[illegible], while in Catholic Italy it is only 9.[illegible] and in Catholic Spain a mere 3.3. Ireland shows the lowest average of all, and it is enlightening to note that in the Protestant north the number of suicides per 100,000 population is twice as great as in the Catholic south.

SEP 19 1940

The Catholic Church has more and stricter laws than any other Christian group; yet unquestionably its people, as a whole, try with all sincerity to live up to these laws at the sacrifice of comfort, riches, and so-called earthly happiness.

It is no fun to crawl from bed early on a cold, wet Sunday morning and trudge long blocks to Mass. It is no fun to hang on tenaciously to an oft-times miserable life, when self destruction is so easy. Nevertheless, whether you want company for sleeping all Sunday morning, or a companion for jumping off a roof—well, don't ask a Catholic!

SUICIDE- 1940

Bullets Blast Brains Of Both All Over Piano In Parsonage When Pair Engage In Quarrel

Jealousy Cited Motive For Tragedy Which Stuns City; Woman Was Songstress, Ex-Movie Actress

LOS ANGELES, May—By Harry Levette for ANP)—A pretty young woman bishop and a prominent real estate broker are dead in a murder and suicide that have the whole Negro community shocked. They are Caldwell Jones, who fired the fatal shots, and Mrs. Sarah Butler, former movie actress and singer, and estranged wife of Charles Butler, casting director for Central Casting bureau.

The tragedy occurred at Zion Temple, over which Mrs. Butler has presided ever since she withdrew from movie work to organize her church several years ago. Both died instantly, the heavy bullets blasting their brains out over the piano in the upstairs parsonage where the double killing took place. Jealousy is said to have prompted Jones to the rash act, he having been madly infatuated with the victim, according to friends of both who claim to have known for some time of the attachment.

Reconstruct Melodrama

Although there were no eyewitnesses to the murder and suicide, from the testimony of persons who knew of incidents leading up to it police reconstructed the real life melodrama as follows:

Jones, who was also estranged from his family, had come to the bishop's home earlier in the afternoon, quarreled with her and left. Insane with rage, he returned and fired point blank, then turned the gun on himself. Persons in the vicinity, who heard the shots, rushed in and seeing what had taken place called the police.

Rumors are flying thick and fast as to the real cause of affair, but it is the general consensus of opinion that Jones suspected that the young woman was making plans to divorce Butler and marry a prominent Chicago man. Persons connected with the temple are said to have overheard threats made by Jones that before he would give her up he would kill her and then kill himself. He is also said to have been despondent over business reverses that have dogged him recently.

Woman Was Singer

Mrs. Butler, a native of Ohio, was a prominent figure in motion pictures for a number of years as director of Sarah Butler's Old Time Southern Singers, a 25-voice chorus that sang and played in many motion pictures. They also appeared before many audiences in aristocratic Hollywood churches.

Discontinuing the chorus and movie work, she organized Zion Temple and kept advancing steadily until she had a large and conscientious congregation. She was ordained a bishop and recently rebuilt the temple into one of the most beautiful in the city.

Killer "Mental Case"

The official Board of the Zion Temple has issued a statement that the shooting and suicide were due to the fact that Jones had been asked for his resignation as deacon and treasurer of the organization "because of being a mental case".

TRYS LIFE OVER LOVE

Eleanor Campbell, 25 years old of 2938 Dayton street, was conveyed to Phillips Hospital Wednesday suffering from Potassium poisoning. She stated that she had had an argument with her boy friend and took about half ounce of poisoning in an attempt to end her life.

Poor Health Moved Lucas to Take Life

WASHINGTON

Despondency over ill health, which had been dogging him for more than a year, drove Lucas E. Howard, 25, son of Perry W. Howard, Republican national committeeman from Mississippi, to take his own life Wednesday night in the bathroom of his home, 1829 S Street, Northwest.

Young Howard died shortly after firing a shot-gun charge into the back of his head. According to the story given the AFRO by Mr. Howard, his son's act, while not expected, had been feared.

Was Melancholy

"He told us some days ago," said the father, "that he didn't think he could ever make a physical comeback and it was in that spirit of melancholia that he left his mother and me sitting downstairs about 7:30 last night and went up to his room.

"Ten minutes later, it was all over."

Hr. Howard declared that although his son had not been altogether cheerful while the three of them were talking downstairs, he gave no indication of his intention.

Lucas,younger of the two Howard sons, had been suffering for almost two years, and on not less than two occasions, had been believed at the point of death.

During the past summer, he spent most of the time at their home at Highland Beach, Md.

Recently he had become bored with his confinement, and had tried to rebuild himself by walking and driving about the city.

A fine physical specimen during school days, young Howard played football at both Howard and Wilberforce Universities. Since leaving school he had served as a clerk in the census bureau. This job had to be given up, however, when failing health overtook him.

Private Funeral

Funeral arrangements had not been completed up to press time, but Mr. Howard stated that it had been decided that they are to be private and from the home.

Survivors are his father and mother, Mrs. Wilhelmina Howard; and one brother, Perry W. Howard, Jr.

Chauffeur Shoots His Lover; Kills Self

CINCINNATI, Ohio—(SNS)—

Suicide and attempted murder snuffed out the life of Sherman Ransom, 40, a chauffeur, 2945 Gilbert avenue, after attempting to kill Mrs. Ginny Simms, 26, beautician, in the Laurel Homes Apartment, 1382 Linn street early Wednesday a. m.

The shooting was the result of a series of quarrels which according to reports, had been the talk among neighbors for several weeks. The woman said they were seated on a divan talking when Ransom accused her of seeing a man in another apartment. After a slight discussion, he drew a .45 caliber revolver and shot her. The bullet passed through her forehead and lodged in a wall. She is in a serious condition. Police reported, after Ramson had shot his sweetheart he fired a shot into his right temple. He died before police came for investigation.

RICH FAMILY'S MAID 'SUICIDE'

NOV 16 1940

SCARSDALE, N. Y.—Louise Horne, 38-year-old maid for a wealthy white family in this village, committed suicide last Saturday night by drinking adrenalin chloride, according to a report issued by the county medical examiner. Mrs. Horne had worked for Mrs. Richard C. Noel, 5 Carstensen Rd., for the past 10 months.

County Medical Examiner Amos O. Squire said that the drug was a heart stimulant. Mrs. Horne frequently complained, her employer revealed, about suffering from "heart trouble."

The body was discovered in the maid's room. On a table nearby was a note. It read: "My cousin's address is 19 Irving Pl., Yonkers. She can be reached next door at Pryor and Brooks' Undertaking Home."

The note gave no other indication as to the reason for suicide, police said. Funeral services are scheduled to be held in New York City this weekend.

Second Paramour Killing And Suicide In Greenville

Courier - 6/15/40 - Pittsburgh, Pa.

GREENVILLE, S. C., June 13. (ANP)—For the second time in less than a month a Negro has refuted the charge that Southern colored folk do not commit suicide. Last week Dewitt Davis shot and killed Miss Alberta Mack and then took his own life. The killing occurred in a house in the colored section early in the morning. There was no sign of a struggle and it is believed that Miss Mack was shot while asleep.

Davis shot himself in the head after wounding Miss Mack three times. Davis held a responsible position in the shipping department of a large manufacturing concern, was married and the father of three children.

The previous murder-suicide occurred about a month ago when Juan Molina, architect, shot and killed Miss Marie Knight, school teacher, and then took his own life.

GIRL LEAPS THREE FLOORS; SUCCUMBS

DEC 13 1940

Reports of three persons that Zelma Faulkner, 21, 4272 W. W. North Market street, who died at Phillips Hospital December 8, had told them that she jumped from a third floor window at Phillips Hospital Nov. 28, led to a probe of the case at the Coroner's inquest Monday. When police went to investigate the case Sunday, they were informed by Clark Wm. Chesseborough that he was unable to furnish any records on the case as they were locked up until 9 a. m. Monday.

Told Mother

Miss Faulkner it was testified by her mother, complained of illness November 24 and she summoned Dr. Samuel Moore of 4271 W. North Market, who ordered her conveyed to the Hospital. At the hospital she was pronounced suffering from incomplete abortion, serious. She stated that November 28, when she visited her at the hospital, her daughter informed her she had jumped from a third floor window.

Mary Faulkner, 4272 W. N. Market street and Ella May Rosson, 4338a West Belle, relatives of the deceased, also testified that she informed them she had jumped from a window at the hospital.

The mother stated that her daugher informed her that a youth first name "Bill" who worked at Riebourts Realty and Construction Company, 7511 Delmar boulevard, was responsible for her illness.

Records Confirm Report

Police stated that Hospital records show she attempted to jump from a third floor window Nov. 27, but was restrained by a nurse and put back in bed. At that time Dr. Leon Smart pronounced her suffering from probable peritonitis. On Nov. 28, she again made an attemped leap and this time succeeded. She landed on the ground and was picked up and conveyed back into the hospital suffering from probable fractures.

Police located the man called "Bill" who proved to be Wm. Bean 26, porter, residing at 2901 Delmar Blvd. He testified that he met Miss Faulkner last July and had been going with her every since, but did not realize her condition.

An open verdict returned in the case by a Coroner's jury.

JANITOR KILLS SELF

FORT WORTH, Texas—(ANP)—Anthony Bradford, 61, janitor of the First Presbyterian church (white) for 17 years, was found shot to death at his home. The body was discovered by his wife. A shotgun was found gripped in his hands. Justice of the Peace Brown returned a verdict of suicide Monday and that this suicide marked the third or fourth ever listed here for Negroes.

NORTH CAROLINA MAN KILLS GIRL, TAKES OWN LIFE

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa.

DEC 7 1940

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., Dec. 5—(ANP)—Authorities could find no reason for Ed Mark's fatal shooting of a 13-year-old school girl, and then killing himself on a county highway last Thursday morning. Mark was a farmhand employed on the same farm on which the girl, Alease Lynch, lived. He met her walking on the road en route to school, shot her, and she died two hours afterwards.

Fail In Efforts To End Lives

Defender - Chicago Ill.

DEC 7 1940

Three persons, residents of the South side, attempted to end their lives by swallowing poison during fits of despondency this week.

The most recent case was that of 14-year-old Bernice Marchman a high school student, who drank iodine early Wednesday morning on the street near her home, 5810 South Parkway.

Rushed to Provident hospital, the girl later told police she attempted suicide because she feared being scolded by her mother, Mrs. Emma Carchman, after becoming intoxicated while out on a party with several friends.

Early Tuesday, Miss Mariene Cole, 25, of 5400 Indiana avenue, drank poison at her home while despondent over family affairs. She was given first aid at Cook County hospital.

Mrs. Catherine Simpson, 46, of 5426 Indiana avenue, sought death Sunday by inhaling gas at her home following a quarrel with her daughter, Delores.

Members of the family returning home from a theatre late in the evening discovered Mrs. Simpson's plight and called police. An inhalator squad from the city fire department succeeded in reviving the woman after working over her for more than an hour.

SUCIDE - 1940

Pretty Manicurist Leaves "Suicide Note" In Taxi, Then Leaps To Death

22-Year-Old Catherine Burton Leaps from Apartment at 409 Edgecombe Avenue in Harlem's "Sugar Hill."

By TED POSTON
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—The crumpled body of a beautiful girl . . a blood-spattered sidewalk in front of 409 Edgecombe avenue . . a tear-stained suicide note which did not fall into the hands of the police. and a cryptic station house notation: "Sudden death" this week provided Sugar Hill with one of its most baffling violent deaths in recent years.

The body was that of strikingly pretty Catherine Burton, manicurist, living at 678 St. Nicholas avenue. Sometime between midnight and 1 a.m., Saturday, the 22-year-old lass hurtled to her death from the Colonial Parkway Apartments at 409 Edgecombe avenue...the last of an impressive list of suicides at that address.

SUICIDE NOTE LEFT IN TAXICAB

The suicide note was left in a taxicab outside the building, in a pocketbook which the suicide-to-be handed to a friend who thought she was entering the building to companions to wait t[illegible] cab... visit friends. She had told her "I'll be right down," she said.

The mystery was provided by the two-score witnesses of the plunge...heat-weary residents of "409" and adjoining buildings, who were cooling themselves on benches in front of Colonial Park, and who mistook the plunging body, which they detected first near the sixth floor, for a bundle of garbage thrown from an upstairs window.

These witnesses insisted that theis girl did not plunge from the 14-story roof of the building, and in-timated strongly that she eithertioned suicide...nor that she wrote jumped or was thrown from some of a broken love affair, of family window within the house.

FACE, PLACID IN DEATH, UNMARKED

The police and employees of the building flatly rejected this theory, however, and listed the case as suicide from the roof. The position of the body...one foot from the building facade...made the plunge impossible from any point other than the jutting roof of the building, they said.

No one could explain, however, why the body was not smashed in the long plonge to the sidewalk. The girl fell on her back and only her head seemed crushed. Her face, pallid in death, was unmarked.

More intriguing than the manner of her death, however, was the story of Miss Burton's last hours as unearthed by Courier reporters. Going back over the death trail, The Courier learned that the beautiful young girl began her last evening at the Silver Dollar Grill, 72 St. Nicholas avenue.

Miss Burton met her girl-friend and former roommate, Miss Marie Beasley, at the Grill, after the latter had called for her at her home. At the time Miss Beasley reached the Grill, Miss Burton and two young men friends were drinking. Apparently in the best of spirits, Miss Burton was seized by melancholia only after an entertainer had sung the ballad, "So Long."

ASKED ENTERTAINER TO SING SONG AGAIN

She asked the entertainer to sing the song again. Then, she retired to another table, where it is believed she wrote the suicide note. Her friends did not know at the time that the note mentioned suicide...nor that she wrote of a broken love affair, of family trouble, or being unable to bear it any longer. Nor did they know that the note listed her friends, bade them farewell, named the six boys whom she wanted to act as her pallbearers, nor intimated that her troubles were greater than she could bear.

And then...after visiting other bars and grills, Miss Burton told her friends she wanted to see some one in 409 Edgecombe avenue. She asked them to wait outside, with the words: "I'll be right down."

Not one of the several elevator operators in the house remembers carrying her from the lobby. The doorman did not see her enter. No tenant in the house was able to identify her body a few minutes later...after she had hurtled to her death.

As her body struck the sidewalk, one of her friends in the cab screamed: "My God! There she is now!"

Miss Beasley jumped from the cab, looked at the body. She was so dazed that she staggered down the street without identifying the corpse. Only after she had met a friend and hysterically told him of the incident, was the body identified. The young girl did not discover the pocketbook, with the suicide note in it, until Miss Burton's escort brought it to her later in the day Saturday.

Miss Beasley turned the note and pocketbook over to Catherine's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Burton, who live at Mt. Vernon with three other daughters and a son.

Catherine recently lost her job as a manicurist, and had been doing domestic work. Despite her beauty, she had never tried to work in a chorus, nor had she been interested in the show business, her friends say.

Another Suicide In Greenville

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP)—The spell of murder suicides among Greenville Negroes has been broken. Staid citizens firmly believe in the rule of three. That [illegible] crimes and killings run in threes, is a belief among a number of both white and colored folk.

With the suicide of Wendell Thompson last Saturday the third in three months, the book is closed and there will be no more for a long time.

The epidemic of murder suicides started three months ago with the suicide of Juan Molina, colored architect, who shot and killed himself after shooting his paramour, Miss Alberta Mack.

On July 4, Wendell Thompson killed his father in law after wounding his wife. Released on bond awaiting trial, Thompson in a fit of remorse, killed himself 30 days (that three ago) after the murder of his father in law. The coroner said that Thompson left several notes apologizing to his parents for causing them so much trouble.

It will be a long time before Carolina colored folks agree with the charge that southern Negroes do not kill themselves.

3rd Suicide Leaps from Harlem's 409

NEW YORK— Harlemites who want to end it all because they are disillusioned with life are following each other to the community's tallest structure — No. 409 Edgecombe Avenue — as a sports good as any from which to jump out of this world.

The latest victim, the third since whites gave up the swanky apartment house a few years ago, is 22-year-old Catherine Burton, who committed suicide early Saturday morning by jumping from the roof of the fourteen-story building.

Lived 10 Blocks Away

Like the other two victims, Miss Burton had to make a special trip to No. 409 in order to keep her rendezvous with death. She has been making her home ten blocks away, at 672 St. Nicholas Avenue.

The body was removed to the Amsterdam Avenue station house, where it was identified three hours later by a brother, Alonzo Burton, of 219 S. Eighth Avenue, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Another woman, Mrs. Minnie

Negro Kills His Wife With Shotgun, Then Takes His Own Life

NOV 5 1940

Deputy Coroner T. J. McCollum of the Bessemer Cutoff, Tuesday held in a verdict of murder and suicide that Felix Jones, 47, Negro, former coal miner of Brown Town, near Fairfield, killed his wife with a shotgun and then ended his own life with the same weapon.

The double tragedy occurred about 8 p.m. Monday at Jones' home and was witnessed by three children.

Police Chief E. L. Allman, of Fairfield, who investigated the case along with the coroner, said Jones' wife, Mary, was instantly killed by the charge which struck her in the head. Jones killed himself, he added, by firing a charge through the neck as he sat in a chair.

Chief Allman said Jones, formerly a coal miner at Dolomite, suffered a stroke about a year ago which crippled him and added that despondency was believed to have been the cause of the slaying and suicide.

Pretty Nurse Ends Own Life

Afro-Amer. Baltimore, Md. 8-24-46

PHILADELPHIA.

Slightly more than three weeks after she had been involved in an automobile accident. Miss Corrie Phields, 22-year-old nurse of 2223 Federal Street, committed suicide, Wednesday, in the Philadelphia General Hospital where she had been confined.

Well known in local social circles, the attractive young woman, police said, fashioned a rope out of bed sheets and hanged herself from the framework of one of the hospital windows.

Accident Basis of Act

The nervous conditions for which she had been admitted to the hospital was the result, it was said, of the accident which occurred the latter part of July. A graduate of Mercy Hospital Nursing Social. Miss Phields was employed at Seaview Hospital in New York.

She had bought a new car, according to reports, and was on her way to this city to show it to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Phields, when she had an accident in Pennsauken, N.J. sustaining head injuries.

She was at first taken to New York for treatment, but later brought to the local hospital where she could be near her parents. When found, Wednesday, it was estimated that she had been hanging about twenty minutes.

Private Rites Held

Private funeral services were held, Saturday, at the Royal Weaver Funeral Home, Eighteenth and Fitzwater Streets, with only the immediate family and close friends in attendance.

Services were conducted by the Rev. John Logan and John Logan, Jr., of St. Simon PE Church, where she had been christened, and the Rev. William J. Harvey, 3rd, pastor of Penn Baptist Church, who represented the Rev. W. Harrod of the First African Baptist Church of which she was a member.

Dr. Harrod was away on vacation.

Interment was at Eden Cemetery. The young nurse's father has operated a confectionery store in South Philadelphia for a number of years.

WILLIE JACKSON ENDS LIFE AFTER MURDERING WIFE

Couple Had Been Separated For Over Two Months; Verdict Of Murder and Suicide Returned.

Negro Labor

A verdict of murder and suicide was returned following an inquest in Judge Maes' court here last week in the case of the deaths of Gazzie T. Jackson, 20, and Willie Jackson, 28. This however, does not tell the story of one of the most tragic endings of a love affair ever recorded here in Houston.

According to witnesses to the murder of Gazzie T. Jackson, her husband, Willie Jackson, from whom she had been separated about two months, came to the home of her brother at 1904 Worm, where she was staying and shot her once in the right shoulder blad with a .32 caliber pistol causing her death.

As the story goes, Willie Jackson on arriving at the house asked to speak to his estranged wife and on getting an audience appeared melancholy and despondent but not displaying any outward signs of anger or bitterness.

He asked his sister-in-law, Mrs. Hazel Roberts, to play the musical number "I'm Through" on the victrola and after she had left the room and the piece began to play, he pulled out his pistol and shot his wife. After firing one bullet he ran out of the house crying as he did.

Stopping at the corner of Rawley and Benson, Jackson held the pistol to his chest and pulled the trigger. He died almost immediately.

A note found in his pocket addressed to his mother said, "Gazzie done me wrong."

Friends and relatives of the dead report that there has existed a state of domestic difficulties between the two and that about two months ago Gazzie Jackson left her husband and came to 1904 Worm, the home of her sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Roberts.

Brooks-Ross Funeral Home had charge of the body.

SUICIDE USED SHEET IN ACT

Amsterdam News

John Rodriquez' Body Found in Basement After Search

John Rodriquez, 41, of 5 W. 137th St., was found hanging from a water pipe in the basement at that address Monday after a search which lasted nearly six hours.

A white sheet, twisted into a rope-like noose, was tied around his neck. The body was discovered by John Vasquez, 186 W. 101st St., and police reported the case a suicide.

Detective William Robinson, of the W. 135th St. station, made the investigation. A note written by Rodriquez read: "I am sorry and tired of this world. It doesn't pay to live." Relatives said the victim had been ill for several years.

WPA Worker Kill Wife And Himself

St. Louis Argus

Albert O'Day, 41 who resided with Pearl Kemp 8-3-034, at 618 North Kingshighway, St. Charles, shot and killed both the woman and himself Wednesday afternoon. The woman died immediately while O'Day died about four hours later at St. Joseph Hospital, St. Charles.

According to a 10-year-old child, believed to be the daughter of the dead couple, O'Day and Pearl Kemp had been in an argument a day before the shooting, at which time the father of the dead woman had said he would kill Pearl O'Day. This theory has been considered of little consequence however, since police of St. Charles believed that O'Day committed the double crime.

Body Is Found In Lake

Daily World
Atlanta Ga

SEP 28 1940

Upraised Hands In Water Lead To Discovery

SEP 28 1940

The body of a man believed that of Joseph Prater, about 27 years old, of 339 Markham Street, S. W., was found Friday afternoon in the Davis Street power plant lake.

An official at Dunn's funeral home said the body appeared to have been in the water three or four days. Upraised hands pointing out of the water led to discovery of the body.

No signs of violence were found on the body. Police investigating the death were considering a suicide theory Friday night.

Police several weeks ago removed from the same lake the body of another man declared to have been a suicide.

MAN HANGS SELF WITH BELT IN BRUNSWICK JAIL

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

SEP 26 1940

BRUNSWICK, Ga.—(SNS)—Matthew (Check) Powell, 30 year old Brunswick man, last night committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell at the city jail. He was believed to have been brooding over the fact that his eyesight was seriously impaired as the result of a blow received a few weeks ago. Powell was a frequent city prisoner, and was serving a 150-day sentence on four charges. On July 29 he was involved in a free-for-all fight, in which he stabbed two Negro women, one whom struck him over the head with an axe. His eyesight was impaired and he has since been treated at the city clinic.

Atlanta World

He was a trusty and he has been engaged in work around the city jail. Yesterday he was working on the lawn and when Chief Register was leaving for the day the man asked him to let him go. The Chief told him he would see about it today, and intended releasing him. Later he was missed—He escaped while engaged in work, but was picked up about 8 o'clock and returned to jail. About 8:30 prisoners near Powell's cell called for officers, saying Powell was trying to cut his throat with a safety razor blade. The night sergeant went to his cell, took the blade and placed the Negro in another cell. Nothing more was heard from him. About midnight officers went upstairs to place another Negro in jail and observed Powell's body swinging around a bar in the cell, tied it around his neck, and the body was hanging when the officers arrived. He had evidently been dead for two or three hours.

Suicide's Note Says "Life Is Unbearable"

Atlanta, Ga.

OCT 5 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3. (ANP)—A tersely worded note, found under a dresser scarf last Saturday was regarded by police as almost conclusive proof that the writer of the missive, Mrs. Emma Grimes, 40, a well known school teacher here, died a suicide.

Courier

The note, found by the victim's stepdaughter, Mrs. Annie E. Grimes, Bennett college student, read: "To my children and folks: Goodbye. Look to God. Life is unbearable."

Suicide Note Says Life Unbearable

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—(ANP)—A tersely worded note, found under a dresser scarf last Saturday was regarded by police as almost conclusive proof that the writer of the missive, Mrs. Emma Grimes, 40, a well known school teacher here, died a suicide.

OCT 5 1940

The note, found by the victim's step-daughter, Mrs. Annie E. Grimes, Bennett college student, read: "To my children and folks: Good bye. Look to God. Life is unbearable."

SUICIDE -1940

Woman Takes Suicide Wade Into Mississippi River

Daily World
7-26-40
Lauderdale

MEMPHIS, TENN.—(SNS) — One of the year's most mystifying suicides was enacted last Monday afternoon around 4 p.m. when Mrs. Fannie Carruthers, around 40 years of age, 642 South Lauderdale Street, waded out into the Mississippi River at the foot of Beale Street, and drowned herself.

The woman's strange action in walking into the river fully clothed attracted attention of a nearby white fisherman, who attempted to restrain her by entangling her in his trot lines and pulling her back from the deep water. He was unable to bring the heavily-built woman in, however, and a Qualls ambulance was called.

Young Sam Qualls went into the water after Mrs. Carruthers, who had been submerged only a few minutes. He brought her out and stated that she was alive at the time. He and Police Officer Payne began to administer first aid in an effort to revive her. At one time during their efforts it appeared that she would rally. Dr. W. O. Speight, physician, assisted in administering aid, but to no avail. She was dead when taken from the scene.

At first her identity could not be established. Later police learned her name and address. An inquiry at her residence, 642 Lauderdale, where she roomed with Mrs. Georgia Speight, revealed that the dead woman had no known relatives. She had lived at the Speight home for over a year. She was employed as a cook in the home of Mrs. George Tidwell, wife of the Main Street jeweler. Her husband has been dead almost six years, according to Mrs. Speight, and her mother died some time previously She was either a native of Hickman or Louisville, Kentucky. She had lived in Memphis for more than thirty years, formerly residing at Wellington and Georgia Streets.

Mrs Speight disclosed that she was sober in her habits. She had worked in the Tidwell home for over a year and was well-liked by her employers. She was a regular attendant at the moving picture show, this being her only known form of recreation. She was not known to have any close friends. She was not a communicant of any of the local churches.

Mrs. Speight could think of no reason why Mrs. Carruthers should wish to take her life. She appeared to be in good health and had no financial worries. When she left the Lauderdale street address it was the opinion of the household that she was taking one of her regular trips to the theater. She spoke gaily as she left the house, and gave no indication of despondency or worry.

Her body was turned over to the Southern Funeral Home pending funeral arrangements.

AVERT SUICIDE

Betty Drake, 22, was under observation Monday in Bellevue Hospital after an attempted suicide from the roof of the building at 157 West 123rd street, in which she had a furnished room. Police said they found a note which said the attempted suicide was "sick and tired of the struggle." While a crowd of several hundred watched from the street below the girl was captured by police as she ran up and down the edge of the roof, a knife in her hand.

Murder And Suicide Shocks Many Friends

Plaindealer
7-26-40
Kansas City, Kans.

MACON, Tenn.—Bate Bowers was killed by an unidentified man of Rossville, who it is believed was protecting Bowers' wife. Bowers and his wife were quarreling when this unidentified person intervened and with one stroke of a stick fatally injured him. Bowers was taken by the doctor's office and then sent home, but was dead before he reached his home.

A few days later, after the murder of her husband, Mrs .Bowers ,overcome with grief, took her own life by sticking a double barrel shot gun into her stomach and pulling the trigger. The entire community is shocked over this double tragedy.

There is one child orphaned by the tragedy and she also leaves parents.

FUGITIVE FROM N. C. CHAIN GANG HANGS HIMSELF IN JAIL

Courier
8-3-40
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1—Two hours after detectives collared him as a fugitive from a North Carolina chain gang, James Peterson, 25, of Baltimore, was found hanging last Thursday morning from the bars of a cell at No. 1 police station.

The man had used his trousers to form a noose. He was discovered and cut down by Policeman E. R. Cox, making a cell inspection. Revived, he was sent to Gallinger hospital for observation.

Detective Thomas Nally and Policeman C. O. Rouse, hurried to a New York Avenue bus terminal early Thursday morning after getting a message from North Carolina authorities of the escape and a suspicion the fugitive would pass through Washington. The detective was told the fugitive could be spotted by the absence of two fingers from his left hand.

When a bus pulled in, Nally and Rouse looked over the passengers and were amazed to find two men, each with two fingers missing from the left hand. They finally decided by scars on his ankles that Peterson, who was riding on the bus with his wife and child, was their man and arrested him. The wife and child stayed aboard the bus bound for Baltimore.

HINT REASON FOR SLAYINGS IN NEW JERSEY

Amsterdam News
8-10-40

Report Couple Quarreled Over Cash Woman Was Keeping for Man

By HARRY B. WEBBER

NEWARK, N. J.—Light was shed this week on the big question mark that has hovered for over a month above the dramatic murder-suicide "hari-Kari" of the love-mad William Lloyds who perished in a sea of blood on the sidewalk at the exact corner of Somerset and Spruce streets, Saturday afternoon, July 6. The question has been: What motive?

Formerly sealed lips are now being opened slightly with the result that a mad sequence of events, starting in Florida, moving to Philadelphia and ending on the still blood-stained asphalt death bed in Newark, is beginning to be verified.

It was a hidden hoard of cash money secured by questionable means by Willie down in Florida that started the road to death travelled by himself and his "merry widow" wife, Billie Bradley Lloyd. Willie was under suspicion down there as to the source of this money whose hiding place he never revealed to authorities. Friends of both say, however, that he gave the cash to Billie to keep until the cloud of suspicion against him should lift. He sent her north—to Philadelphia where he was to meet her later. Then their happiness was to be assured by both love and money. The future, despite the risks, looked rosy.

But, as in many another drama, when Willie joined Billie in Philly he was greeted with this discomfiting news:

"The money is all spent."

It was this climax which started Lloyd on his finally successful plot to get even. He is said to have warned the girl that she better produce the money—or else. Billie finally moved to Newark, made a lot of friends, fought to make a name for herself on the concert stage, worked in church, became popular. But William Lloyd did not join in the popular acclaim with which his estranged wife was being greeted. He saw in her only the woman who had double crossed him to the tune of a lot of ready cash.

Here at last is a logical explanation of the vanished five dollar bill that Willie held in her hand as she talked at her apartment door with her murderer. The five was evidently another tiny "installment" she was paying on the missing cash account.

The police said, as usual, that jealousy caused the tragedy. It is more likely that hate, due to the double-cross, caused it. Other sources said the two met in New England, married there and moved here. But since Billie's home was in St. Petersburg, Fla. and Lloyd made his money in that state, they evidently met there first.

Billie's life seems a continual flight from vengeful Lloyd. She lived in several cities before coming here. Always he caught up with her, save on her last flight down Somerset street dressed in a loose house smock and old shoes. That flight she did not escape.

No amount of washing and foot traffic over the fatal corner at Spruce and Somerset Sts. has succeeded, after 30 days, in removing the big blood stains where the two perished in death.

Death Reveals Racial Identity Of Couple

Police investigating the fatal shooting of a Washington Heights woman and the subsequent suicide of her estranged husband learned this week that the couple was colored, and not white, as reported when Mrs. Ethelin Lawrence, a 28-year-old dressmaker, was shot to death in her apartment at 512 W. 162nd street on July 21.

The couple's nationality was revealed when some of their relatives living in Jamaica, B.W.I., inquired by letter as to the circumstances surrounding Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence's death.

The husband, 44-year-old Herbert, visited his wife for an attempt at reconciliation, police say, and when she refused to "take him back," he shot her and then turned the gun on himself. Herbert died instantly, but his wife lived several hours afterward and died in Mother Cabrini Hospital.

At the time, the husband was employed as an orderly at Tarrytown Hospital. They are survived by an 8-year-old son now living in Jamaica.

2 MEN DIE IN SUICIDE PACT

Police Unable To Find Clews to Coast Mystery Deaths

LOS ANGELES.—Two men died in a down town hotel last Friday in a strange suicide pact. They were Tom Winston, 45, and Bill White, 19.

Winston was first found in his room by O. Oka, the proprietor, who had begun to wonder at his non-appearance so late in the day. Sprawled in a chair beside a table, the man had been dead for several hours. In a glass near his hand were the remains of a deadly mixture of ant-paste and whiskey.

Under the glass was a note which read: "This is the death cup. It is very bitter, but I drank it. It is the only way out."

The body was removed, and the excitement that had arisen in the neighborhood from the discovery died down until 7 o'clock that evening when it broke out anew. Just as the clock struck the hour, Bill White, in the adjoining room, crawled out on a balcony, and in sight of scores of passersby leaped four floors down to the street.

SLASHES BOTH HIS WRISTS

NEW YORK, Aug. 15—Despondent over the failure of a once prosperous drug business and his inability to find employment in the field, Ernest Adams, 50-year-old Harlem businessman, comitted suicide Wednesday afternoon by slashing both wrists in his second-floor apartment at 2[illegible] Seventh avenue.

Adams' body was discovered by a friend, James Williams, 504 Lenox avenue, who had come to the apartment looking for him. Unable to arouse anyone in the locked apartment, Williams summoned Willie Grover, superintendent, who opened the door.

The ex-druggist was lying on the bed in his bedroom, with blood still flowing from his slashed wrists. Dr. Kornbalu, of Harlem Hospital, was summoned immediately, but announced Adams dead on arrival.

Detective Prinz, of the 135th street police station, was placed in charge of the case and immediately wired the widow, Mrs. Alice Adams, who, since her husband's business failure, had been forced to take a domestic job in Sea Bright, N. J.

The detective also took charge of a suicide note which had been left for Mrs. Adams. He declined to divulge its contents. Williams said that Adams had been despondent for several weeks, and had mentioned the possibility of suicide.

TWO PEOPLE DEAD IN "SUICIDE PACT"

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 22—(ANP)—Two men died in a downtown hotel last Friday in a strange suicide pact. They were Tom Winston, 45, and Bill White, 19. Both men committed suicide at a Japanese hotel.

Winston was first found in his room by O. Oka, the proprietor, who had begun to wonder at his non-appearance so late in the day. Sprawled in a chair beside a table, the man had been dead for several hours. In a glass near his hand were the remains of a deadly mixture of ant-paste and whisky.

Under the glass was a note which read: "This is the death cup. It is very bitter, but I drank it. It is the only way out."

The body was removed, and the excitement that had arisen in the neighborhood from the discovery died down until 7 o'clock that evening, when it broke out anew. Just as the clock struck the hour, Bill White, in the adjoining room, crawled out on a balcony, and in sight of scores of passersby, leaped four floors down to the street. He died instantly, his body crumpled into a grotesque hulk.

With few clues to work on, investigators from the coroner's and the district attorney's offices decided that the two men must have agreed upon a suicide pact. They were friends and had arrived in town but a few days previously, registering at the hotel together.

Police have decided that if nothing can be found to indicate that they were fugitives from justice and chose death to "beat the rap," then despondency over their evident poverty must have goaded them to their acts.

ILL, BROKE; KILLS SELF

SEP 14 1940

NEW YORK CITY, Sept. 12 — Suffering from a long illness, and worried over his inability to work and support himself, Albert Wildy, 55, plunged to his death from his apartment window at 202 W. 140th street, Saturday afternoon.

The elderly man's body hurtled down an airshaft between the two buildings, and he was pronounced dead on the arrival of an ambulance from Harlem Hospital.

Relatives and friends declared that he had been despondent over his condition for quite a while.

Attempted Suicide Reported by Police

RICHMOND — Police reported that Percy D andridge, 13 W. Bacon Street, attempted to commit sucide on Saturday by cutting his left wrist with a razor blade.

The victim was treated at St. Philip Hospital and allowed to go home.

Attempted Jump Off Roof Laid To Heat

Perhaps it was the heat. Anyway, Mrs. Sadie Reynolds, of 2059 Mountain street tried to jump off the roof of her house Monday afternoon. She was thwarted in her attempt by Patrolman Frank Barone, attached to the 20th and Federal streets station.

Rushed to the Philadelphia General Hospital, Mrs. Reynolds was treated and detained. Hospital authorities said Tuesday morning that she was resting comfortably.

HARLEMITE A SUICIDE

The holiday calm of Labor Day was broken by screaming ambulance sirens from Harlem Hospital called to 5 West 137th street when a visiting friend found John Rodriguez, 31, hanging from a waterpipe in his three-room basement apartment. Rodriguez was found to be beyond aid by Dr. Annitto. Detectives gave "suicide" decision after opening notes left by the deceased.

SUICIDE- 1940

Lover's Quarrel Is Blamed In Death Of Teacher, Architect

Tragedy Shocks Greenville

Notes Indicate Killings Were Premeditated

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP)—Murder and suicide snuffed out the lives of two of Greenville's prominent residents Saturday. Juan Henito Molina, 42, only Negro architect in this section, shot and killed Miss Marie Knight, a teacher in the city schools, and then blew out his own brains.

The shooting was the result of a series of lover's quarrels which had been the talk of Greenville's upper crust for several weeks. Molina and Miss Knight had been friendly for years and the double-killing shocked the entire community.

Molina, a native of Cuba and a graduate of the University of Havana, was an outstanding architect and a number of churches and residences here in North Carolina attested to his ability. He was also manager of boxers and a promoter of prize fights. He started such fighters as "School Boy" Cook, "Hotdog" Powell and "Newsboy" Brown on their fistic careers.

Miss Knight, a resident of Orangeburg, S. C., had taught in the local school for a number of years.

The couple had been out riding. A quarrel developed and Miss Knight attempted to leave the car. Molina followed her and as she stumbled and fell Molina shot her and then turned the gun on himself.

That the killing was premeditated was evidenced by the three notes left by Molina, one to the local radio station asking that if the double-killing was broadcast, to mention jealousy was not the motive, another to Father Joseph of the local colored Catholic church of which he was a member, asking for prayers for the repose of his soul, and the third note addressed to the parents of the young woman.

Miss Knight's body was carried to Orangeburg for burial. As yet no disposition has been made of Molina's body awaiting word from relatives in Cuba.

DRINKS TOO MUCH, THEN KILLS SELF

An all-day drinking spree is blamed for the suicide death of comely Miss Lillian Brown, of 219 E. 55th Place. The young woman drank the contents of a bottle of lysol while visiting in the kitchenette apartment of Judge Ford and Joseph Brown on the third floor at 5447 Prairie avenue last Thursday night.

She died in Provident hospital at 10:45, 15 minutes after her admittance. Ford and Brown were taken into custody and await the outcome of a deferred coroner's investigation to be held at 5th district police station next Wednesday afternoon, May 29.

The manager of the building, a Mr. Carter, told police he was forced to eject the trio earlier that day, but that they returned some hours later. When he again went to the apartment he found the young woman lying on the floor and Ford in a drunken stupor in a chair.

Man Who Slew Wife with Ax Kills Himself

PHILADELPHIA — Less than a week after he bashed in the face of his comely young wife with an axe and attempted to hack off her head with the blood-stained weapon, Herbe Bailey was found a suicide.

Lying face down in five feet of water, the 22-year-old husband, who, enraged by Mrs. Ethel Bailey's cool refusals to effect a reconciliation, murdered her while their 17-month-old baby slept in the one-room apartment at 3910 Wallace Street, was found in the filtering bed of the Queen Lane Pumping Station, late Tuesday.

Identified by Cousin

How long the body had been there, authorities could not say, but it was believed that Bailey had gone from his wife's apartment to the pumping station where he had been employed on a WPA project.

Identified at the city morgue by Shirley Bloxon, 2343 Thompson Street, a cousin, Bailey's body was sent to Accomac, Va., where only a few days before had gone the remains of his 19-year-old wife.

The young couple came to Philadelphia about two years ago, it was learned, and, following numerous quarrels, separated the latter part of February, Bailey going to live at 434 Holly Street.

Slew Wife on May 1

Reconstructing the incident, police said that the husband confronted his wife in her apartment on May 1, asked her to return again, met the same resistance, picked up the axe and beat her to death.

Then, according to police, Bailey picked up the baby, Elsie, and took her to a neighbor's home, asking that she be cared for while he went to get a physician for his wife who had taken ill.

Girl Tries to End Life

Lectured for Staying Out All Night

BALTIMORE

Baltimore's suicide wave that has swept the city during the past two months, with three of four tries successful, continued on Monday when a 15-year-old high school girl attempted to take her life by drinking rubbing alcohol because she had been scolded for staying out all night.

The girl's father told the AFRO that he could offer no explanation for his daughter's attempt to end her life, as she had often been scolded before and had never given any indication of undue resentment.

According to the father, the girl attended an uptown theatre, Sunday afternoon, with one of her older sisters, and when they left the movie house she asked her sister to wait a few minutes while she went down the street.

Parents Became Alarmed

When she did not return, the sister is said to have presumed that she had gone to the home of a friend. The parents became alarmed, however, when their daughter had not returned by midnight, and notified police.

Shortly after 8 o'clock the following morning, the girl is said to have come home, and offered her parents a vague account of having spent the night with a girl friend.

"We are going to have to settle this thing right now," is the way the girl was said to have been rebuked by her father.

Heard Body Fall

Following this, she immediately went upstairs to her bedrom, and shortly afterwards, those downstairs heard her body fall to the floor.

Rushing upstairs, they found the girl in a semi-conscious condition, frothing at the mouth, and near her was a half-emptied bottle of rubbing alcohol.

The father stated that the girl had never stayed away from home all night before without the consent of her parents. She is the youngest of four children.

Began With Robinson

The suicide wave first rolled over the city two months ago when Lafayette Robinson, 22, insurance agent, killed himself in his apartment at 1013 Lafayette Avenue, three weeks after he had been married to the former Miss Lilian Hervey, YWCA Girl Reserves secretary.

Next in line came the tragic slaying of a 16-year-old occupational school girl, whose lover died three days later of a self-inflicted bullet wound.

Less than a week later, Norman Reeves, 34, stevedore of 257 Robert Street, fatally shot himself through his ear because his efforts to affect a reconciliation with his chiropodist wife, Dr. Lucy Mason Reeves, failed.

This case was followed four days later by the most recent suicide attempt in East Baltimore.

Wife's Effort To Prevent Husband's Drinking Almost Leads To Suicidal Death

TRENTON, N. J.—(SNS)—

Mr. James Hopkins, only 26 years old, attempted suicide here late last week when his wife attempted to halt his frequent drunken sprees on pay day. Hopkins is said to have gone to the cellar of his home at 90 Klagg Street, broke a gas pipe and lay on the floor to "get it over with", thereby endangering the lives of wife and brother who were on the upper floor.

After being revived by police, he was removed to the McKinley Hospital, where he is held for observation. Police declared he would be arrested on an attmpted suicide charge, which carries a maximum of 5 years in jail. Officers said he was accustomed to getting drunk on pay days, and when his wife tried to stop him, decided to "quit life".

Radio Patrolmen Kowal, Mosrangelli, Greak and Eldridge worked over him for sometime before he was revived. When Trenton World's reporter called at the home the following day, no one was there, except, according to the reported, "a black cat". The reporter said he made several attempts to contact the victim's wife to no avail. A neighbor said his wife had not been seen for several days.

Morganton, N. C., News-Herald
August 27, 1940

NEGRO TAKES HIS OWN LIFE

Johnny Jones, a Newcomer, Is Suicide Victim Near Here.

Johnny Jones, colored, whose lifeless body was found Friday in his bed, died from self-inflicted gunshot wounds, according to Coroner Russell E. Greene.

In declaring the case suicide, Coroner Greene said it is perhaps the fourth suicide involving colored people known to have occurred in 50 years or more in Burke county.

Jones, who was about 45 years of age, came to Morganton recently and was serving as temporary caretaker at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald B. Russell while they were away on their vacation.

No reason was advanced for the suicide.

The body was found on a cot in his attic quarters. A 32-20 calibre pistol lay near his hand, and he had a bullet wound in his heart. On the cot lay a Bible opened at parts of the eight and ninth chapters of Second Kings.

The Negro wore a new summer suit, and indications were that he had burned his other clothes, suitcase, and all other belongings except what he wore, and his quarters had been put thoroughly in order.

Jones was formerly a cook at the Jamestown high school teacherage in Jamestown and had a reputation of a good worker.

The body was found Friday by Police Chief Fons Duckworth after Mrs. Thompson, who came here for a visit, a sister of Mrs. Russell, tried Thursday night and Friday morning to enter the house but found it locked.

The colored man is understood to have no family. He was buried here Saturday.

SUICIDE-1940

Husband Cuts Wife 20 Times

Young New Jersey Couple Had Broken Up

NEWARK, N. J.—At the height of the bristling Saturday afternoon shopping on the central thoroughfare passing through the colored section, William Lloyd, 27, of 63 Stratford Place, plunged a knife twenty times into his wife, from whom he had been estranged, and then, after one thrust into his own heart, fell over dead beside her at the corner of Spruce and Somerset Streets.

Hundreds of persons were in the streets while Lloyd and his wife, Billie, 24, living at 51 Somerset Street in the fashionable Douglass-Harrison Apartments, were engaged in an argument in her doorway, apparently over their separation.

Believed to have become suddenly enraged, he lunged at her and she escaped momentarily only to be caught as she rounded the corner.

CROWD HORRIFIED

He fell upon her as she stumbled in a vain effort to get away, straddled her, and wildly stabbed her about the face, arms and upper part of the body while a horrified crowd looked on, stopped in their tracks by the awful spectacle happening before them.

As she lay bleeding, the maddened man half rose from her inert form and ended his life with the one stroke of his deadly weapon.

The Lloyds have been separated for about six months, according to reports, and during that time he has made repeated efforts to get her to return to him. Whenever they discussed the matter it seems as though an argument would ensue.

OFTEN QUARRELED

Their verbal tiff in the doorway was no more than usual. Whether he came with the intention of violence will probably never be known but, it is stated by persons who happened to be passing and were attracted by the argument, he claimed that she was rejecting his efforts at a reconciliation.

The young wife had just recently completed a course in beauty culture here.

Hospital Man Takes Own Life

Self-Administered Drug Brings Death to James Brown, Who "Had a Little Extra Work to Do"

BALTIMORE—Carrying out the remark, "I have little extra work to do," said to have been made to fellow worker upon reporting to work thirty minutes earlier than usual, Monday, James Brown, Provident Hospital orderly, committed suicide, thereby recording the sixth similar sudden death in less than three months.

Brown was found apparently unconscious on his back on the floor of the small anesthesia room between the main operating and maternity rooms on the fourth floor of the hospital, shortly before 7 a.m.

Rescue Efforts Futile

Miss Lucy Willis, student nurse who made the discovery, summoned her supervisor, Mrs. Mabel V. Hawkins, who in turn summoned Dr. Franklin G. Phillips. For more than twenty-five minutes, the physician and nurses worked futiley to res s nurse worked futilely to resuscitate Brown before pronouncing him dead and notifying police.

An AFRO investigation bore out the belief of police and hospital authorities that the suicide was a well-planned tragedy.

A restraining belt, with which his feet were bound to the base of a radiator in the room, had been borrowed from the emergency operation room by Brown earlier that morning after explaining to the orderly of that department that he needed an extra belt for some operations scheduled that morning.

Had "Extra Work to Do"

Though due at work at 7 a.m., Brown had come in much earlier, Monday morning, and when this fact was called to his attention replied that he had some extra work to do. He reported to the main operating room where he had been assigned to work regularly, and apparently began his daily duties as usual. He had not been missed when the body was found.

Late Monday afternoon, the body was ordered released by a medical examiner and turned over to Mrs. George Holland, mortician, who prepared it for burial. Funeral arrangements are to be completed by a brother of the deceased, William Brown of 1610 Division Street.

Motive for Act a Mystery

On Monday night, neither police officials nor friends of the deceased were able to shed any light on the suicide or advance any known motive. Brown was said to have lived so much within himself that the tragedy may have to be left on police records as one without an apparent motive.

On the floor nearby lay three cans of ether, the contents of two of which had been poured over the cone and mask which he had placed over his mouth and nose as he had observed it done in the operating room. This mask had been tightly tied to his face by a strip of gauze bandage.

Attached to this cane was a tube leading from a tank of carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide gas, the jet of which had been turned on.

Also on the floor lay a hypodermic needle and an empty vial, giving rise to the theory that he had injected a dose of novocaine into his abdomen. A physician's scalpel with which he had inflicted a slight flesh wound on the abdomen lay nearby.

Queried Nurse on Drugs

It was learned that the day before, Brown, usually most reserved, quiet, and the type of person who never opened a conversation, had asked a nurse whether it were not true that 4 per cent novcaine solution would act quicker than drugs of other percentages.

Observers pointed out that this indicated that suicide thoughts must have been in Brown's mind at that time.

Brown roomed at 2111 Division Street and had been an employee of the hospital since February when he came from the Sheppard Pratt Hospital in Towson.

The five suicide cases preceding his in the past three months included: James Cooper, 22, 415 Orchard Street, June 13; Jerome Wilson, 48, 658 Franklin Street, May 28; Norman Reeves, 34, 257 Robert Street, May 10; William Manuel, 25, 728 Pierce Street; and Lafayette Robinson, 22, 1013 Lafayette Avenue.

Kills Wife, then Joins Her in Death

Mrs. William Lloyd Slain by Mate in Murder-Suicide

NEWARK—"And now I'll join you."

William Lloyd, 27, the man who uttered these words, was standing astride his youthful wife. A switch-blade knife, still moist with her blood, was held aloft.

He looked at her sadly, shook his head, plunged the blade into his heart and fell. When police arrived a few minutes later they were both dead.

Children View Tragedy

The double tragedy, enacted at one of Newark's busiest intersections, Spruce and Somerset Streets, occurred at 3:45 p.m., while hundreds of housewives were marketing in the vicinity. The two bodies remained an hour where they had fallen beneath the windows of the 800-family Douglass-Harrison apartment buildings.

Hundreds of children, gambolling in a playground between the two buildings, saw the tragedy and heard the words of Lloyd, unemployed garage worker. Willie Lloyd, his wife, two years his junior, was employed in a nearby cleaning establishment.

Mr. Lloyd

The Lloyds were married, last November, in Boston. They lived together here for the first six months. Late in April they separated, the husband moving to 63 Stratford Place, while Mrs. Lloyd took up residence at 51 Somerset Street, a unit of the Douglass Apartments.

Sought Reconciliation

An hour or so before the tragedy, Lloyd took his leave of a group of friends and went in search of his wife in an attempt to effect a reconciliation. At the Somerset Street address, he met her on the steps as she was about to leave for a nearby store. A quarrel ensued.

A few minutes later, spectators saw Mrs. Lloyd racing down Somerset Street, crying for help, with her husband pursuing closely, brandishing the knife.

The woman, attired in bedroom slippers and a house dress, had difficulty in maintaining her footing. A few feet from the corner of Spruce Street, her husband plunged the knife into her back. She uttered a blood-curdling scream and rounded the corner as the knife landed again.

She ran a few more steps and fell, exhausted, to face her husband. Spectators told police that Lloyd knocked his wife to the sidewalk with knife blows to the head, face and chest, then stabbed her prostrate body, over and more times, finally arose to his feet and watched as her body shook convulsively and then lay still.

Was 1940 Beauty Grad

Mrs. Lloyd, who was a popular member of Newark's younger set, was a graduate of the 1940 class of the Apex Beauty School of this city and a member of the choir of Israel Memorial AME Church. Friends told police Mrs. Lloyd, was expected to arrive in Newark either Monday or Tuesday from her home in St. Petersburg, Fla., where her husband. She lived in constant fear of her husband. Mrs. Ruby McPherson, of 15 Baldwin Street, pretty young aunt of Mrs. Lloyd, visited her niece only a quarter of an hour before the tragedy.

Mrs. Halley Bradley, mother of Mrs. Lloyd, was expected to arrive in Newark either Monday or Tuesday from her home in St. Petersburg, Fla., where her daughter was born, and where funeral rites will be held.

Discovery of Bodies Bares "Love Affair"

GREENVILLE, S. C.—An illicit love affair between Dewitt Davis, a married man and father of three children, and Miss Alberta Mack, a young woman prominent in social circles here, was bared last week when their bodies were discovered in a house in the colored section.

Reconstructing the murder-suicide, police officials believe that Davis, who held a responsible position in the shipping department of a large manufacturing concern and who was highly respected in the community, walked calmly into the house where his paramour was asleep, pumped three shots into her body, then turned the gun on himself and fired a single bullet into his brain. It is believed that Miss Mack must have been asleep since there was no evidence of a struggle.

Still stunned, the community is unable to explain the tragedy. Although both Mr. Davis and Miss Mack were well-known in social circles and travelled around in the same set, it came as a shock to their friends when it was revealed that the pair had been having a love affair for a number of years.

This tragedy is similar to one that occured a month ago when Juan Molina, a prominent architect, shot and killed Miss Marie Knight, a school teacher against whom there had never been a breath of scandal and then took his own life.

Coast Woman Tries To Take Own Life

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Dorothy Blakely, 23, evidently brooding over an unrequited love affair attempted to commit suicide Saturday by inhaling gas in a cloth-stuffed room. Bishop Stevens of the same address discovered the woman and notified police.

The room was tightly closed with all crevices stuffed with cloths. Stevens told police the woman had attempted to take her life the day before by swallowing iodine.

MOTHER'S SUICIDE EXPOSES HARLEM HOSPITAL CONDITIONS

NEW YORK CITY, June 20—Unsatisfactory conditions said to prevail in Harlem Hospital were spotlighted this week when Mrs. Ethel Howard, mother of three children and a pneumonia-cardiac patient in the institution plunged to death from the fifth story of the building.

According to the hospital version of the tragedy, Mrs. Howard had become mentally deranged and while the attending physician was on a lower floor awaiting a release order to transfer her to Bellevue Hospital for observation, she opened a window and jumped to her death.

Charge Negligence

Relatives and friends of the dead mother disputed the official explanation and charged the tragedy to the "shocking and scandalous situation" existing in the hospital. They characterized it as one of the "worst cases of negligence" in the history of the institution.

James Goodman, friend of the deceased woman, said he visited her shortly before the suicide, and that she appeared to be on the road to recovery. Goodman added that Mrs. Howard had no doubt become upset because the doctors were constantly worrying her about an operation to which she was opposed.

Community Aroused

Residents of the community were unanimous in laying the blame for the tragedy at the door of the hospital administration. They pointed out that the institution is greatly understaffed, and that three or four doctors are given two hours to treat between 200 and 300 persons.

The doctors and nurses are so overworked, they declared that they are compelled to regard every patient as just another number instead of human beings.

SLAYS WIFE, SELF ON 6TH ANNIVERSARY

Jealousy, intensified by rumors of infidelity, was blamed for the slaying of Mrs. Eugenie Walker by her husband, Perry, a Pullman porter on the evening of their sixth wedding anniversary.

Walker turned the gun on himself, and was dead when police arrived. The double killing climaxed a wave of slayings in the community over the past week end, in which five others were victims.

Guests Arrive After Shooting

The murder and suicide occurred in the Walker apartment at 367 E. 53rd street, last Friday at 5:15 p. m. Mrs. Walker was busy preparing a dinner, to which four others had been invited. Two of the guests arrived shortly after the tragedy.

Sole witness during the tragic argument was Mrs. Dorothy Boggess, 5816 South Parkway, a distant relative of Mrs. Walker. Mrs. Boggess, who fled the apartment to summon police when Walker grabbed a revolver, stated she had come to their home earlier in the day to assist Mrs. Walker in preparing a turkey for the anniversary dinner.

Accused Her of Infidelity

When Walker came home, she stated, he began arguing with his wife, accusing her of being unfaithful. She said the woman tried to leave the apartment but was forced back by Walker. When she attempted to use the telephone, she was again restrained. The instrument was torn from the wall, giving evidence to the violence of the quarrel.

Mrs. Boggess said she ran out of the apartment when the couple began a struggle for possession of the gun. Just as she reached the street, four shots rang out.

Police found the table set for six persons. Mrs. Walker lay dead in the dining room, her body slumped against a sideboard. Walker's body was in the living room, while near it lay the gun used in the double-slaying.

Inquest Saturday

Mrs. Walker had been shot twice, one of the bullets striking her in the lower abdomen; the other pierced the left shoulder. Beneath her body was an automatic, which police stated, had not been fired. Walker was shot in the throat and right arm, near the shoulder. Both bodies were removed to the Metropolitan Funeral Parlors where the inquest was held Saturday morning.

Other slaying victims were Early Biggens, 4016 State street; Robert Day, 558 E. 50th street; Julius Washington, 119 E. 43rd street; Zelotie McKell, 5811 Calumet avenue and Edward Fowler, 45 W. 45th place. Three of the victims, Biggens, Washington and Fowler, were slain in quarrels in which women figured.

Two Killed in Auto Crash; Harlemite Takes His Own Life

Under the heading of tragedy come two occurrences which last week took the lives of three Negroes, two through an auto crash, one through self-inflicted death. A Boston woman and a Divinite were killed in New Brunswick, New Jersey, when the car in which the Divinite was driving with eight others, got out of control as the result of a flat tire. Killed were Mrs. Theodore May and "Purity Sincere".

The other fatality came in the suicide-death of Robert W. Woody, 35, 2400 Seventh avenue, who hanged himself in his furnished room at the Seventh avenue address. Woody was found suspended from a rope, one end of which was tied about his neck and the other to the transom door. Discovery was made by a roomer who cut down the body.

Dr. Giamoco, called from the Harlem Hospital, found the man was beyond aid. Police were informed that Woody had been in ill health for several months.

SUCIDE- 1940

Man, 50, Kills Sweetheart, Self After Quarrel

OCT 6 1940

Murder and suicide wrote finis Saturday night to the love affair of a 50-year-old man and his 40-year-old sweetheart, when Albert Watson, 50, a janitor, shot and killed Miss Juanita Abernathy, 636 Garland street, Winnetka, a maid, and then sent a bullet through his head.

Both were dead, one lying in the hallway and the other in the front room of Watson's basement apartment at 4416 So. Michigan avenue, when police arrived.

Police at 5th district station, 48th and Wabash avenue, were summoned by Miss Alma Haynes of St. Louis, Mo., who had accompanied the Abernathy woman to Watson's apartment. The couple had been going together for about five years, it was stated.

Argue Over Money

Miss Haynes, who did not witness the actual shooting, said she had left the couple in the front room and was in another room in the apartment when two shots rang out. She said they were apparently on friendly terms, but admitted that Miss Abernathy seemed distraught. She said she heard her ask Watson for money he owed her, but that they did not appear to be quarreling.

When police arrived they found Miss Abernathy lying in the hallway, shot in the heart. Watson's body was discovered in the living room. He had shot himself in the left chest in the region of the heart.

Maid In Actor's Home Killed, Husband Slain

OCT 2 1940

LOS ANGELES, 1940 — A Negro maid in the home of Actor Alan Hale was shot to death Tuesday by a man identified by Police Capt. Harry Doyle as her estranged husband, who then killed himself. Hale was not at home.

Doyle said Richard Anderson, 35, entered the servant's quarters in a separate building and fired four shots after the maid, Margaret, 30, refused to give him some of her wages.

Mrs. Hale heard the shots and telephoned police.

Life 'Unbearable,' Teacher Suicide

OCT 6 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3—(ANP)—A tersely worded note, found under a dresser scarf last Saturday was regarded by police as almost conclusive proof that the writer of the missive, Mrs. Emma Grimes, 40, a well known school teacher here, died a suicide.

The note, found by Mrs. Grimes's stepdaughter, Mrs. Annie E. Grimes, Bennett college student, read: "To my children and folks: Good bye. Look to God. Life is unbearable."

2 Dead, 1 Wounded In Love Tangle

OCT 2 6 1940

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—In what was termed a fit of jealousy, David R. Oliver this week killed his former wife, Mrs. Lela Brown, wounded her husband, Pete Brown, and then ended his own life. The scene of the shootings was the Westminster place residence of Mr. and Mrs. Brown.

Mr. Brown, a janitor, who was shot in the arm when he refused to admit Oliver into his home, told police that Oliver came to his home under pretense of a friendly visit. He said he wished to apologize to the former Mrs. Oliver for insults of the previous night.

However, when met with rebuff by Mr. Brown he became angry, and drawing a revolver, shot the janitor in the arm and proceeded into the house.

Police later found Mrs. Brown dead with three bullet wounds in her body, and Oliver dying with a bullet in his chest. Death came to the 29-year-old murderer at Homer Phillips hospital shortly after the shooting.

Something To Pull Up Before It Takes Root

OCT 1 1940

MAYBE it would be well to stop and do a little watching and investigating before anybody else is added to the two recent "suicides" found in Davis Street lake. While only one of these men was personally known to this writer, the other may have been like him, a hard working man who really had no intention of dying in a lake. With a lack of motives on the part of the two men found recently, there is called to mind the present wave of knife, pistol, ice pick and axe killings that has swept over this city in a disgraceful blitzkrieg of wanton and ruthless crime.

Atlanta, for the year has reached a tragic high in the killing of men and women of color. No week end is recorded without the terrible tragedy of violent deaths. It has gotten to be a common thing and in nearly every sector of the city some individual or individuals have been murdered.

While we are making surveys and inquiring into the many things rendering a handicap in the struggle for advancement, we might look into the fact that the great amount of killings going on cannot enhance the general uplift of the group. On many occasions we have advanced ideas and opinions leading up to the curbing of the killing evil. For one cause or another the killings continue to pile up, leaving broken ties, hungry dependents and empty chairs. These violent killings are principally among our own group and there seems to be little concern over the grave situation.

OCT 1 1940

A few months ago a movement was set in motion to rid the city of a great extent of its slums and the slum characters. Millions of dollars have been poured out and many modern housing units have been constructed to supplant the slum. To a great extent we did get rid of the slum, but we still have the slum characters at large among us. And here is where our crime begins.

The housing business of itself will never rid us of the desperado who whips out knife, gun or wields an axe to extinguish the life of his victim.

The rapid succession of the finding of dead bodies in Davis Street lake might offer the suggestion that the much lamented urge for murder is undergoing an evolution, because in the absence of motives and knowing the persons involved, the suicide theory looks a bit conspicious.

There might be a novel method in the making, somewhat like the practices of "Jack-the-Ripper" of old who threw Atlanta into a bedlam two generations ago by ripping the throats of helpless women. There was no real jack-the-ripper. persons aggrieved would take their victim out individually and proceed in uniform method to kill it under the blanket and to the credit of some figure in speech, "Jack-the-Ripper."

Also Shoots Husband of The Victim

Had Threatened to Kill Her If She Did Not Return to Him

David R. Oliver, 29 years old, ran amuck with a revolver Tuesday about 2:15 p.m., blazing away and fatally wounding himself and his ex-wife and seriously wounding her husband at 4005 (rear) Westminster place, their garage quarters in the back of the home where the husband was a janitor.

OCT 1 8 1940

GOES BESERK

The woman victim, Mrs. Lela Brown, 30, was blasted through the heart with a bullet as she lay in her bed. Her husband, Pete Brown, 40, was shot in the left arm as he tried to intervene. Oliver then turned the gun toward his own heart and fired.

Officers found the woman lying beside her bed in a pink slip, which was drenched with blood, and Oliver, unconscious, lying across her body bleeding from the chest.

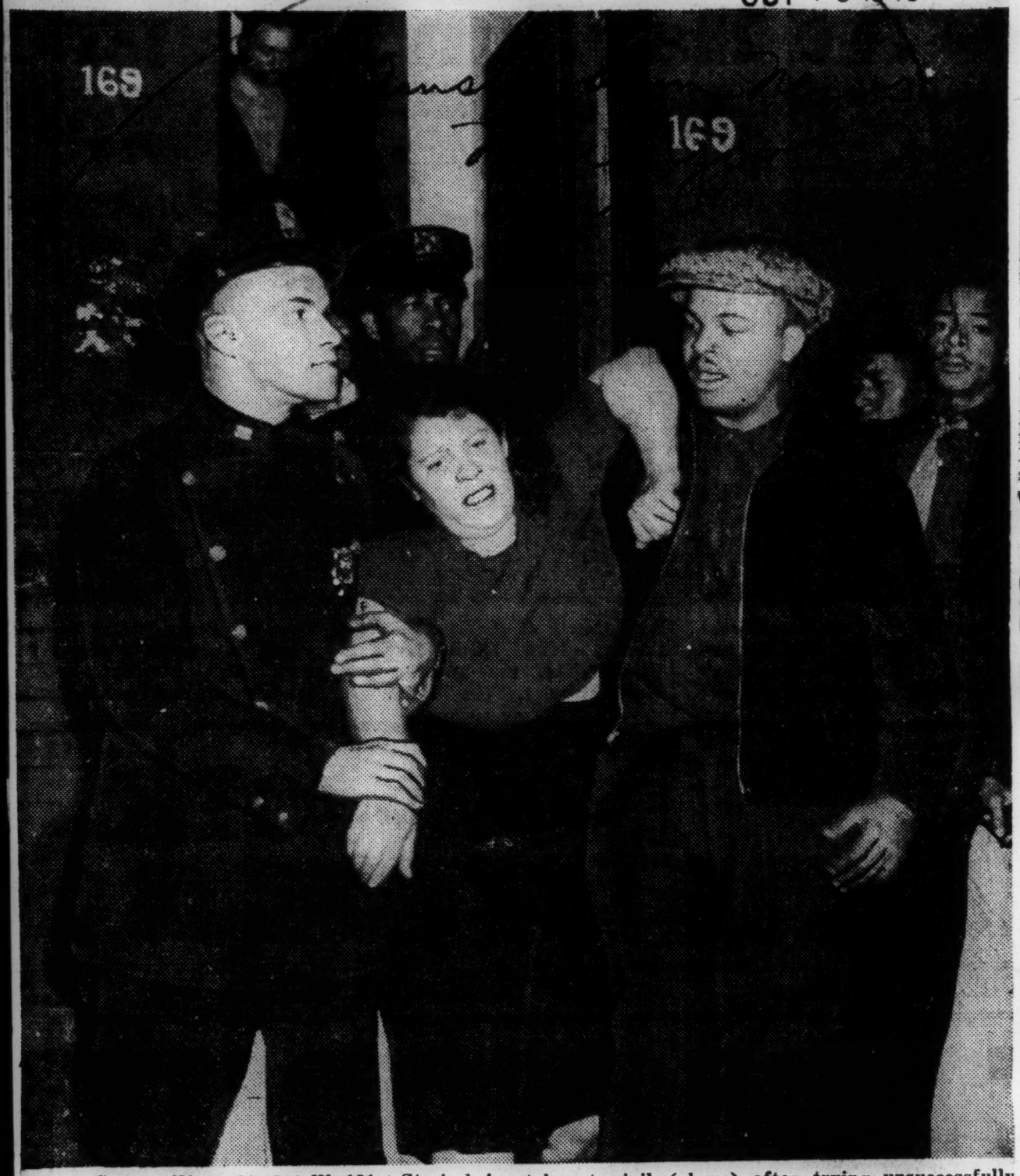
Brown was found in the yard outside bleeding from a wound in his left arm.

Mrs. Brown was killed instantly and Oliver died at Phillips Hospital about an hour after the shooting. Bullet wounds were found in the woman's heart, back of the head and left thigh. Brown was confined at the hospital.

When questioned, Brown stated that he was mopping the floor at 4005 Westminster, The Fermentation Laboratories, when he was informed by an office girl someone wanted to see him at the rear door. He was met at the basement steps by Oliver, who told him he wanted to apologize for a disturbance he caused Tuesday night and asked his permission to say goodbye to Mrs. Brown, as he was leaving town. Brown declined to give his consent to see Mrs. Brown, he said, as he feared another disturbance might cause him to

Police Take Would-Be Suicide in Hand

OCT 19 1940



Geneva Ware, 31, 262 W. 131st St., is being taken to jail (above) after trying unsuccessfully to commit suicide last Saturday night by drinking the contents of a bottle of iodine and attempting to leap from a second-floor window at 169 W. 130th St. Three neighbors, Haskith Mignott, Julius Peronneau and Willie Holloway, grabbed her in time to prevent the tragedy. The cops came along later, took her to the W. 135th street station and then to Bellevue Hospital for observation.

Suicide Attributed To Failing Health

OCT 19 1940

FREDERICKSBURG, Va.—The body of Andrew Dawson, missing from his home overnight, was found hanging from the limb of a tree near the Old Germania Mill by his brother and a delegation who were alarmed at his failure to come home.

Mr. Dawson, who was 48 years old, was reported to have hung himself by securing his belt around his neck and the limb of the tree. The act was ascribed to ill health by his son.

The deceased was employed as a fireman at a local inn and lived with a cousin, Mrs. Bertha Lee.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Alice Dawson; one son, Elmore Dawson and three daughters, Misses Mary, Grace and Dora Dawson of New York.

Youth Hangs Self By Belt In N. C. Jail

OCT 26 1940

By J. HOLLINGSWORTH

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.—Fayetteville police revealed that Benjamin Ray, 25-year old youth who had been arrested on a charge of drunkeness and disorderly conduct, had been found hanging by his leather belt in his cell in the city jail on Wednesday of last week.

His death by strangulation was pronounced a suicide by officers.

The youth, a ground keeper at the Officers Club at nearby Fort Bragg Army Reservation, had been arrested in the Atlantic Coast Line station. His body, which had been lifeless for a few hours, was discovered by Sergeant P. L. Maloney. The police cut the belt and, finding the youth dead, called in Dr. W. T. Parker from a local hospital. The physician declared the death due to strangulation.

Young Ray is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie Ray, of 25 North Street, and a three year old son. When questioned, Mrs. Ray told the Journal and Guide that her husband had never threatened to kill himself and she knew no reason for the act.

SUICIDE- 1940

MURDER-SUICIDE PLAN SNARES WOMAN BISHOP

lower left photo Bishop Butler is shown in the days when she loved the theatre. She is shown wielding her baton as director of "Sara Butler's Old Time Southern Singers." To right is Zion Temple, located at 1315 East Vernon avenue, Los Angeles. This photograph was taken Easter Sunday morning following the unveiling of the life-size, neon-lighted figure of Christ which Bishop Butler dedicated to the community's "inspiration."—Photos by Billy (K.C.) Smith.

A pretty young woman bishop and a prominent real estate broker are dead in Los Angeles this week following a murder and suicide that rocked the West Coast. The slayer who committed suicide in the case was Caldwell H. Jones, shown in upper left photo. Jones requested that his ashes be strewn on the waves of the Pacific ocean between Los Angeles and Catalina Island, famed resort. Charles Butler, upper center photo, only Race casting agent in Hollywood, told reporters in an exclusive interview following the slaying of his wife, Bishop Sara W. Butler, that "We mutually agreed to live apart." The victim, Bishop Butler, "Pulpit Glamor Girl," shown in upper right photo, was the founder of Zion Temple church. She loved jewelry and, according to her husband, "loved pictures." In

Bullets Bring Murder And Suicide To Couple

CLEVELAND, Ohio — The quiet of Sunday was shattered when Milton Fields killed his wife and committed suicide in the rear of the Lewis Ice Cream company plant.

The couple's death was the tragic sequel to a quarrel between Mr. and Mrs. Fields, a quarrel that began some time ago and led first to a separation of the couple. Her father, Thomas Lewis, is the proprietor of the ice cream plant which bears his name. Fields visited his wife Sunday morning and engaged her in a quarrel which resulted in the double tragedy.

1000 Attend Joint Rites

Grief-Stricken Mother Kisses Body of Slain Youth in Casket

BALTIMORE — Joint funeral services were held here Monday afternoon at Douglas Memorial Church for Samuel Keys, 46-year-old Washington restaurant proprietor and Edward Camp, 24, ticket taker at a Washington theatre.

Mr. Keys committed suicide early Thursday after shooting Camp, his wife's nephew, during an argument at their Washington home, 1857 California Street.

Boy's Mother Hysterical

Mrs. Frances Camp, mother of the slain boy, remained hysterical during the hour and a half services. Relatives and friends administered to her throughout the services.

After the 1,000 persons present had viewed the bodies, they were moved nearer for the family to view, but Mrs. Camp left her seat and went to the casket, leaned over and kissed the body of her son. In grief-stricken tone,

SAM KEYS

she wailed, "Oh Edward, my child. Don't leave me."

The funeral services which were scheduled to get underway at 1 p.m., began a half hour later when the silver grey metal casket of the Camp boy and the two-tone brown bronze casket of Mr. Keys were brought into the church.

Pastor Raps "Critics"

The Rev. Frederick Douglas, pastor of the church, prefaced his ten-minute remarks by saying that he was aware that a goodly number of the 1,000 persons present had come to criticize him for opening the doors of his church, others out of curiosity, and still others out of genuine sympathy for the members of the families.

"The preacher of this church," he said in referring to himself, "doesn't care what you think. This is a community church and it opens its doors to all and administers to those in need of comfort. When other denominations close their doors, our doors are open."

The Rev. Mr. Douglas used as his text the twelfth chapter of Ecclesiastes, "Remember now thy creator in the days of they youth."

He stated that, at a recent meeting in St. Louis, educators from all over the country came to the conclusion that our educational system is breaking down and in the light of that, he said, it is a wonder that we don't have more such tragedies as this one (referring to the suicide and murder).

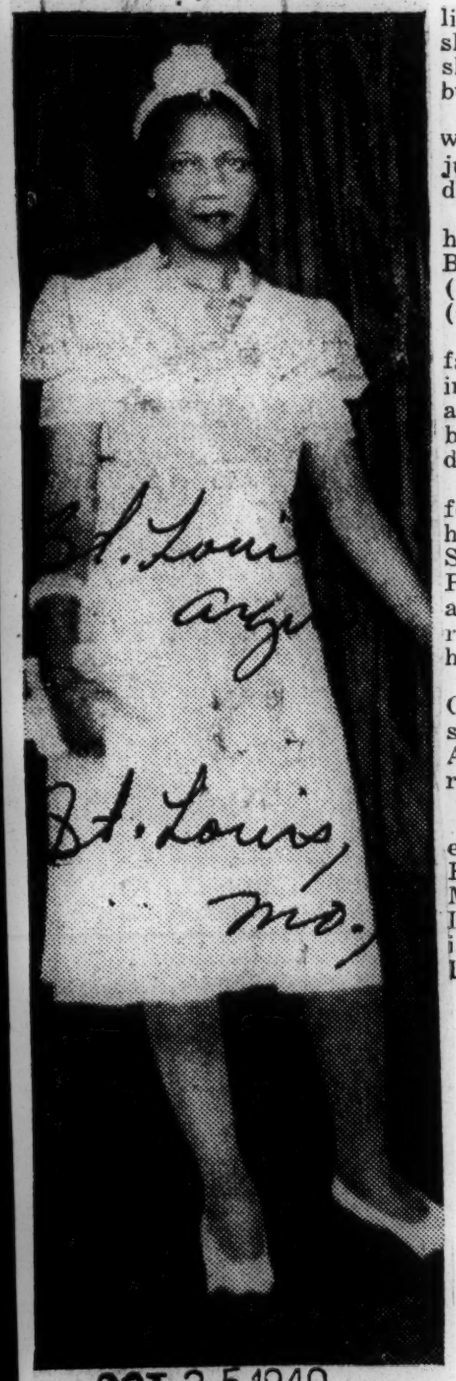
Native of Virginia

Mr. Keys was a native of Staunton, Va., the son of James and Amelia Keys. He took the tailoring course at Hampton Institute, finishing in 1915. He went to Washington where he opened the Moorman and Keys restaurant on Fourteenth Street and later dissolved this partnership to become manager of the Penn Hotel here.

Seven years ago, he returned to Washington and opened his present business, which is regarded as one of the finest and best equipped in Washington. It has gained fame as a rendezvous for theatrical personages.

SUCIDE- 1940

Suicide and Homicide Is Case Verdict



OCT 25 1940

Funeral services for Mrs. Lela Brown, 30 year old victim of a dual killing, were held from Pinkie Toney Funeral Home, 3129 Lucas vaenue, last Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Brown was shot to death by her ex-husband. David R. Oliver, 29, as he lay in bed at her residence, 4005 (rear) Westminister place, Tuesday afternoon, October 15. Her legal husband, Pete Brown, 40, was shot in the arm as he tried to intervene. Oliver then turned the gun toward his own heart and fired. He died at Homer Phillips Hospital an hour after the shooting. His remains were shipped to Morganfield, Ky., for burial. His parents survive.

A homicide and suicide verdict were returned by a Coroner's jury at the inquest in the two deaths.

Brown said he learned Oliver had threatened to kill Mrs. Brown if she did not divorce him (Brown) and return to him (Oliver).

Just a few days before the fatal wounding, Mrs. Brown was injured in a street car accident and she was confined to her bed at the Westminister address when the tragedy occurred.

Mrs. Brown is the mother of four young children born during her marriage life with Oliver. She divorced Oliver and married Pete Brown about two months ago. Brown said it was just recently that he learned that his wife had an ex-husband.

Burial for Mrs. Brown was in Greenwood Cemetery. Rev. Russell Brown, pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Church, conducted the religious services.

Besides her husband, her mother, Mrs. Sallie Dinks Smith of Hickman, Ky.; a sister, Mrs. Mary Johnson, East St. Louis, Ill. and four children, who are in an orphanage in Terre Haute, Ind., survive.

Girl Kills Self In Leap From Automobile

Objected To Route Used By Sister, Brother In Car

NOV 16 1940

Staff Correspondence

ELLERSON, Va.—The death of Miss Alice Brooks, 21, of Hanover County on November 1 has since been cleared up by her brother and sister, the only persons with her when she was fatally injured.

They told officers and members of the family that their sister jumped from the car in which they were riding to work about 7 a. m. shortly after they left Stubbs' service station.

DIFFERED OVER ROUTE

The victim and her brother had each paid for a gallon of gasoline at the station, and Miss Brooks is reported to have said: "This is the last gas I'll buy for this car."

Leaving the service station, Oscar Brooks, the brother and driver of the car, said he was going by a friend's house, but Alice objected to this and said emphatically that she was not going.

SUDDENLY LEAPED

As her brother started the car, Alice, who was in the rear seat of the two-door auto with her sister, Thelma, began collecting her bundles and suddenly pushed forward the front seat with one hand and with the other opened the door and jumped out. This is what both Oscar and Thelma told officers investigating the case, as well as members of the Brooks family.

Miss Brooks apparently struck some part of the car, fracturing her skull, or was tripped and dragged several feet before the car could be stopped. Neither her brother or sister knew she intended to jump out of the car. Miss Thelma Brooks told inquiries that it took place so quickly that she could hardly tell how it happened.

OBJECTION NOT EXPLAINED

Both Oscar and his sister worked only a few miles from the place of the accident. The road which Brooks took to pass the home of his friend could be used to go to the home where his sister worked, but she, for some reason, wanted to go another way.

Her choice was scarcely, if at all, nearer than the route which her brother had to take after making the stop. Oscar, who was released after bond had been posted for him by a member of his family, will appear before Judge Winston for a hearing Saturday.

Business Woman Suicide

Brooding On Imaginary Ill Is Blamed

NOV 22 1940

"Dear Sister:

"I cannot live without the love of my family, and I can't go on as I have in the past. I love you, so goodbye. My insurance is made to you."

Such was the last written message left by Roberta Sidney, 39 years old, of 2829 Clark avenue. Officers summoned by relatives found her lying on a bed Saturday about 6:20 p.m. in her home, apparently dead. In a kitchen sink at that address officers found a large six-ounce bottle of lysol, two thirds empty, from which she had apparently drunk before writing the message.

At Phillips Hospital she was examined and pronounced dead.

Got Phone Call

Mrs. Callie Wike of Taylor avenue, proprietor of the Wike Restaurant at 1804 N. Taylor avenue, summoned the ambulance. She stated that her sister telephoned her about 4:15 p.m. and told her that she wanted to talk with her other sister, Dovie Boughton of 4578 Cote Brilliante. When Mrs. Boughton, who assists Mrs. Wike in her restaurant came to the phone, there was no answer. Shortly thereafter Albert Fitzgerald of 1710 Belleglade came to the restaurant and handed her (Mrs. Boughton) a sealed envelope containing the message.

Fitzgerald, an elevator operator, testified at the inquest that Miss Sidney, whom he knew as a friend, asked him to deliver the note to her sister, as a big favor for her.

Discover Plight

Mrs. Wike and her husband immediately went to 2820 Clark avenue where Miss Sidney operates a branch laundry, and entered.

They were met by Miss Sidney who placed her arms around Mrs. Wike's and said "I want to say goodbye." Miss Sidney then went to the bedroom and fell on the floor and Mr. and Mrs. Wike thinking nothing seriously wrong, placed her in bed. They stated she was often despondent and had crying spells. Later they discovered her plight and summoned aid.

Mrs. Wike testified that Miss Sidney said that she could not go on living alone. She told her that she had invited her to come and live with her and her sister, but she had not come.

Patrolman James Cook stated that he had known Miss Sidney for two years and visited her home Saturday afternoon, at which time she stated she was not feeling well and asked him to deliver a letter to her sister, Dovie Boughton.

Deputy Coroner Perry returned a verdict of suicide in the case.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Gates Funeral Home. The remains were shipped to Jackson, Tenn., for burial.

Murder, Suicide Rocks Exclusive Detroit Area

NOV 30 1940

DETROIT.—Whipped into a jealous fury, Howard Cain, 28, shot and killed his 24-year-old sweetheart, Miss Billie Lee, early Saturday morning, and then killed himself with a bullet in the brain.

The shooting occurred in the exclusive Northup avenue district where Miss Lee had been employed as a maid for the past two years. Cain was an automobile factory employe.

According to witnesses to the shooting, Cain drove up to the home of Mrs. Vera Alvey, where Miss Lee was employed, early Saturday morning. Cain had a shotgun when he left his car which he parked in the driveway.

Miss Lee, who evidently had seen him drive into the driveway, met him on the sidewalk as he approached the house. The two stood and talked for a few minutes, and then witnesses stated that they heard the woman say: "Don't do it that way."

Cain raised the shotgun and fired four shots at Miss Lee, two of the bullets striking her as she reached the back steps, one entering her head and the other penetrating the back. Cain then walked over to where her body had slumped to the ground and killed himself. Both were dead when police arrived.

Friends of the slain woman said that the couple had been arguing for several days.

Swallows Rat Poison; Lives

NOV 29 1940

Griffin Sides, 56, attempted suicide by taking rat poison Friday night at his home, 3117 Lucas avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rose stated that Sides staggered into their room and threw a glass on the floor stating that he had drunk some poison. He refused to give the reason for his act and his daughter, Virginia Rose, was also unable to explain. An empty tube of "Hobson's Rat Poison" was found in his room. He remained at Phillips Hospital in a serious condition.

Takes Poison In Doctor's Office

NOV 22 940

Idol Washington, 25-year-old divorcee, residing at 2931 Franklin avenue, swallowed poison in the office of Dr. Omar Perdue Sunday. She refused to give her reason for the act, when questioned at Phillips Hospital.

Dr. Perdue stated that Miss Washington, who is a friend, was visiting. He left her alone in his office for a short time and when he returned she told him she had drunk some Lysol and showed him a two and one-half ounce bottle of the disinfectant, about three-fourths full. He went to get her an antidote, but she dashed down the stairs into Fry's Drug Store at 2748 Franklin avenue, where an ambulance was called and which took her to the hospital.

A sister, Muriel Armstrong of 3411 Lawton bulevard, was notified.

SCHOOL GIRL, 14, TAKES 1ST DRINK THEN TRIES SUICIDE

DEC 1 1940

A 14-year-old school girl whose name the BEE withholds, will certainly think twice before she takes another drink of anything intoxicating.

She took her first drink Saturday night. Sunday morning she was in Provident hospital, a wretchedly sick girl.

Just 20 minutes earlier, at 1:10 a. m., she tried to end her life by drinking lysol on 58th street, a short distance from her home.

"I was afraid to go home and face the scolding I knew mother'd give me for getting intoxicated," she sobbingly told police. The child, they learned, had gone out with a bunch of young friends Saturday night.

They were drinking wine . . . she joined them.

Contrite and ashamed she chose poison rather than face her mother.

HANGS SELF FROM LIMB OF TREE AT EUDORA, ARK.

DEC 6 1940

EUDORA, Ark.—Silas Marshall, 57 years old, who recently came here from Crossett, committed suicide here Wednesday night by ending his life in an unusual manner.

Marshall, on a visit to the home of Mandy Brown, climbed to the roof of a woodshed carrying a rope with him. Looping one end of the rope about his neck and fastening the other end to a limb of an overhanging tree, Marshall leaped from the roof to his death. Investigation brought the verdict that he had committeed suicide and that death came "by strangulation."

City Marshall W H. Mathis said his investigation disclosed that Marshall had been in "poor health" and evidently was worrying over his condition. It was also disclosed the dead man was having financial troubles.

SUICIDE- 1940

MOTHER KILLS SELF

Leaves Tragic Suicide Note For Daughter.

CHICAGO, Jan. 25—Apparently despondent, Jessie West, alias Susie Mays, age 41, of 129 E. 26th street, committed suicide by drinking a whole bottle of lysol. Her body was found by Policeman Raymond J. Lamb of the 3rd district station, who was obliged to pry open the door of her apartment before he could gain entrance.

The apartment owner found a note in Mrs. Mays' door, sadly explaining her act. In it she said she was going insane and directed persons to see that her daughter, Mary Hawkins, a maid in Evanston, be given her (Mrs. Mays') money. The note ended: "I don't blame her, it was not her fault."

Jobless Man Suicide

Loss of his job and despair of finding employment caused Alphonse Russell, 36, of East 128th street, to take his own life Saturday by leaping from the roof of the 128th street tenement in which he lived with his wife, Susan. Detectives of the East 126th street station investigated. The man was killed instantly according to Dr. Dorf of Harlem Hospital.

Youth Commits Suicide In South End Hotel: Note Held By Narcotics Squad

Frank Mobley, age 29, committed suicide in Room 36, Eagle Hotel, 408½ Main St., Friday, Jan 19. He had locked himself in his room and turned on the gas. He had been dead about eight hours when found, according to the coroner's report.

It is reported that his mother and sisters lived in Chicago. No efforts were made to find any relatives. Mobley has lived in Seattle four years, one year at Eagle Hotel.

Two motives have been advanced for the suicide: Rumor at his hotel said Mobley had been despondent because of fear of losing his part-time job at the Bon Marche. The coroner reported a note left saying Mobley had been taking treatments for narcotics. The note was turned over to the Narcotic squad. The body was sent to the University of Washington, Jan. 21, the usual procedure in such cases.

Further investigation revealed that Mobley was formerly assistant coach at Garfield high school; he worked for the WPA project in 1936; was a member of the shoe shiners' union. Only former addresses knows were Savannah Hotel on Jackson St. and 84 Union St.

He was well known and well liked. No attempts had been made to locate his relatives, Wednesday.

Teacher Long Ill, Tries to End Her Life

Miss Floretta Howard, 31 years old, teacher of speech correction, was conveyed to Peoples Hospital last Thursday about 4:13 p.m. Dr. James Smith, 3806 Cook avenue, who examined her, pronounced her suffering from lysol poisoning. When questioned she refused to make any statement concerning her condition. Dr. Smith stated, however, that she had been under treatment for nervousness.

According to Ralph Young, 1117 N. Leonard avenue, advisor at the Wesley House, he was driving Miss Howard in her Plymouth sedan when she asked him to stop in front of a drug store at 3100 Cass avenue, as she desired to make a phone call. She came out of the drug store and Young drove away with her seated in the front seat beside him. He detected the odor of lysol and saw Miss Howard swallowing the contents of a bottle, when she threw it on the floor. While struggling in the car the ignition key was broken off in the ignition in the automobile.

Young hailed Booker Johnson, 3314 Lucas ayenue, who was driving pass the Plymouth at Webster avenue and Brantner place, and Johnson took Miss Howard to Peoples Hospital in his car.

Miss Howard resides at 4281 W. Aldine avenue.

CALMLY ANNOUNCES PLANS TO END LIFE AT PARTY, THEN ACTS

By TED WOOD
Staff Correspondent

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 22.—How a 67-year-old man indicted on a narcotic charge carefully planned his own destruction, was told by his brother who was in the room when James Boyd committed suicide by firing a revolver shot into his brain Tuesday.

Mack Boyd, brother of James, told police and reporters that his brother had brooded over the possibility of having to serve time in federal prison and decided to take his own life. A note left for his brother read: "If I should fail to awake I want you to have me cremated and under no circumstances do I want a funeral with a lot of the morbidly curious hanging around. If you do, it will be very much against my wishes."

SENT $5,000 TO SISTER AND $1,000 TO MOTHER

Two weeks ago Boyd made initial plans for his suicide. He chloroformed his dog after refusing an offer of $200 for it. Later he withdrew $6,000 from his bank account here, sent $5,000 to a sister in Detroit and $1,000 to his mother in Los Angeles.

Atty. John Prim Locates Suicide's Relatives

Attor'y John Prim, president of the NAACP, announced that, after diligent search, he had been able to locate the relatives of Frank Mobley, who committed suicide in Eagle Hotel, Jan. 19.

Mobley's parents are residents of Memphis and have wired Atty. Prim and the Angelus Mortuary to have the body shipped to their home for burial. It will be recalled that following the death of Mobley, his body was sent to the Uni-

versity of Washington, which is the ordinary procedure. Atty Prim notified the coroner's office that he would locate Mobley's relatives with the above result.

Jobless, Expert Uses Skill For Self-Electrocution

Despondent Over Unemployment, Trained Negro Electrician Rigs Up Own Electric Chair

Edward W. Talbert, Jr., a skilled young Negro who had been unable to obtain a job after two years of daily searching, killed himself early yesterday morning by electrocution.

Talbert, who was an expert refrigeration engineer, used his knowledge of electricity for self-destruction, despondent over the fact that there seemed to be no other use to which he could put the learning acquired by hard study.

He rigged up an apparatus in his bedroom at 272 McDonough St. in Brooklyn, using two metal plates attached to a light cord and fitting the plates to the front and back of his head with an elastic band before he turned on the switch.

Talbert was 29 years old and a graduate of Brooklyn Technical High School. He was a particularly studious youth, according to his grief stricken father, who said yesterday that his son had brooded deeply over his lack of employment.

Rites For Suicide Victim At 2 Today

Final rites will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon from t. Paul AME churchf or the late Ernest Vinson, 58, of 320 Lee Street, SW, whose body was found dangling at the end of arope in an outhouse earlv Friday morning.

The Rev. R. H. Porter, pastor of the church, will officiate. The body will be laid to rest in Southview Cemetery. Haugabrooks will be in charge of funeral ceremonies.

The deceased at one time was superintendent of the Sunday School department of St. Paul Church. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mattie Vinson; a daughter, Mrs. Ruby Vinson Gadsen, of Savannah and a son, Harold Vinson, of Atlanta.

Mrs. Gadsen and her husband are members of the faculty of Georgia State College.

At an inquest held Saturday morning, a coroner's jury returned suicide verdict, declaring that Mr. Vinson died of strangulation, which was self-inflicted.

Despondent and worried since losing his job esveral months ago as shop mechanic for the N. C. and St. L. Railroad, Mr. Vinson's body was found at 8:05 a.m. Saturday morning by his wife. The victim was dangling by a short rope, one end tied around his neck and the other end attached to a rafter of an outhouse located in the rear of the Vinson residence.

Investigating patrolmen reasoned that the man climbed a stepladder, tied one ned of the rope to his neck and the other end to a rafter and then kicked the ladder from beneath him.

Mrs. Vinson said she talked with her husband about 20 minutes before she found his dead body. She also stated that she took a razor from him last Tuesday when he threatened to kill himself.

MAN SHOOTS WIFE, THEN KILLS HIMSELF

MONROE, La.—(SNS)—A double shooting shortly before midnight Friday in West Monroe climaxed an argument between a young couple, Leon and Essie Mae Holmes, at 314 Railroad Avenue, W. Monroe.

The Holmes, who only a few months ago was married, had frequent quarrells and Mrs. Holmes, supposedly tired of existing conditions, on returnng from her job to her room with [illegible] and Mrs. Geo Wright, 1712 Washington street proceeded to pack her belongings and left—When Mr. Holmes arrived and found that his wife, who was an expectant mother had gone, grabbed his revolver and left in search of her. Mrs. Wright seeing the dangerous weapon and the dreadful look, tried to dissuade, halt or offer advice, but to no avail for Mr. Holmes without even stopping to look back simply waved his hand—Mrs. Holmes was killed instantly, while Mr. Holmes was taken by ambulance to a hospital where he died at 2:15 a. m. Saturday.

SUICIDE- 1940

BELIEVE "ELECTRIC CHAIR SUICIDE" OF BROOKLYN YOUTH WAS ACCIDENT

Story of Edward Talbert's Life, Habits Give Lie To Suicide Theories

By ALFRED A. DUCKETT

On matter-of-fact police records and in the hysterical daily press the strange death in Brooklyn last week, of Edward Talbert is a closed case —labelled "suicide".

In the minds of those who knew him best, family intimates and your correspondent, there is the sincere and certain belief that the 29-year-old Brooklynite who lived at 272 McDonough street, met death accidentally—ironically, as he sought to perfect an ingenious device designed to preserve life and health for others.

For Ed Talbert was a dreamer of great dreams who had everything to live for.

A shocked father, Edward Talbert, Sr., found the youth's body stretched out on the bed in his room early Wednesday morning, rubber bands taut about his forehead and two small metal plates, one and one-half inches, fastened in the middle, front and back.

Grounded against a radiator a wire lay beneath the rubber band, pressed against the small plate. A second wire was hooked up to a socket connected with the house current and the plate at the base of his skull. Young Talbert was fully dressed.

Dazed, the boy's father roused the household. His mother, Ada, rushed to the room, screamed, tore at the diabolical apparatus and staggered back with shock.

Summoned, police first pronounced the grim verdict: "murder".

Closer examination brought them to the conclusion: "suicide".

Out came the papers vividly word-picturing a young Negro lad who had sought release from the burdens of life by creating a Frankenstein of molten danger for his own destruction.

Yet the story of the life—and death—the habits and leanings of Ed Talbert—defies the suicide verdict. And though grieved at their tragic loss, a mother and father, who understood their son, are satisfied that he did not seek a craven's death but went to his grave because he dared to explore as men have done all down the ages.

Seeking to solve the unknown, experimenting with the unexploited delving into the mysterious—these were the loves of young Talbert from the time he wore short trousers up until last week when his dreams became his master.

His was not the average boy's bedroom with its nondescript articles of sport or books of romance and adventure. His room was Ed Talbert's little world of science. Here, sure, unafraid, he moved restlessly probing into Nature's secrets. Test tubes, metals, electrical appartus and other instruments of science were his friends. His Testaments were magazines and encyclopediae — Popular Science, Popular Mechanics, a volume on Science and Invention. These sated his thirst for the knowledge that has given the world its Einsteins and its Edisons.

Studied Refrigeration

As a lad, Talbert attended Brooklyn Technical High School where he studied refrigeration. All his time, after and before school—even the wee hours of the morning—saw him groping to know. His extra change, what money he could earn, all went for the buying of new instruments and materials.

Secretive, too, was the young inventor. His room was his sanctum and his family and friends respected it as such. He had the unreasoning fear of all who hope to discover that someone might see his experiments in process—might expect of them too little or too much. In a battered old wallet he carried about his carefully guarded papers on which he had scribbled formulae, make sketches and other various facts and figures of chemical and electrical discoveries he had made. If he left his home to go around the corner that wallet was in his pocket. It was there when they found his lifeless body.

He did not always grope blindly—this unsung hero of test tubes and laboratories. Often he was rewarded with the light of certain knowledge which may be buried with him in his quiet grave.

For instance, the young inventor had found a way to render gold down to its most perfect state. He could separate the alloys contained in any metal and gold-bearing metals gave him their secret as reward for his stubborn seeking. Many times he had sold pure gold nuggets at the assayer's office. Only recently a Jewish friend of his in Albany paid him and defrayed his expenses to come to Albany to separate gold from his metals.

Perhaps the answer to this secret lies behind in the folds of that old wallet.

Experiment Caused Fire

Several weeks ago Talbert told his father he had discovered a process which would make it possible to fuse hard steels just as one solders lead or iron pipe. He had worked this out in his bit of laboratory in the McDonough street home. One of his experiments with it had almost caused calamity when flames caught the room. Mr. Talbert Sr., promised to give his son one of the lots the family owns in Greenwood Lake, upstate, New York. There the experimentative youth intended to perfect this discovery this summer. He was planning the construction of a small shack for this purpose. Was this the dream of an intended suicide?

Ed Talbert abhorred death. He loved life and its mysteries. What could be more eloquent proof than a story his parents recount about another of his inventions?

In the middle of the month of September the lad told his mother that he had completed work on a grenade suitable for use in large calibre guns. His discovery he claimed, made a more deadly instrument of war than any in use today, also that it was cheaper to produce and, more efficient than anything on the market. It would eliminate casings, hold powder and allow the gun to be fired more rapidly.

He had intended to seek an audience with War Department officials. This is proven by a letter which he had typed September 13 asking for an interview.

His parents remember his shuddering at the fact that here was something of his own creation which would cause death and destruction. Had the government accepted that completed model, Ed Talbert might have been "fixed" for life. He might have gotten the money to set up completely-equipped, efficient laboratories of his own—time and money to experiment as he wished.

In spite of that, the letter was never sent to Washington.

Do people, who shudder at the thought of death and love life more than fame destroy themselves?

Complained of Headaches

Six weeks before his death, the young inventor had begun to complain of severe headaches. Little wonder it was, for his waking hours we know were spent in scanning the fine-print pages of books on science and invention. Little sleep was his for such things were disregarded in the ardor of his eternal quest.

At the same time Talbert became interested in the workings of therapy which involves electrical treatment of ailments. Take into consideration the headaches he suffered and a severe illness from which his mother was recuperating and you will probably have the solution to the mystery of his death.

Talbert had told his mother that therapeutic treatment was what she needed. It is sane to assume that he was trying to perfect this treatment himself. It is sane to assume that he was trying to ease his own throbbing temple as an experiment.

His family had urged him to see a physician about his headaches. He never did. Is it hard to believe that in the silent hours of the night Ed Talbert became his own physician?

Four or five times during the past six weeks the family rose in the morning to discover a fuse blown—no lights working.

How sensible is it to assume that Edward Talbert contemplated and premeditated suicide for almost two months when just three weeks' ago he asked his father for a lot at Greenwood Lake to work out his experiments this coming summer?

Detectives puzzled over the obvious fact that a normal house current it not supposed to be sufficient to kill a human being. When Mr. Talbert rushed to her boy's prostrate form and tore the wire from him, she was shocked—not killed.

We can safely say, then, that the reason for Talbert's death was mainly that his feet were damp—all other circumstances being considered, of course. Investigation shows he had been out in the rain-drenched soggy streets the night preceding—say, two hours or so before he went to his room.

How did he forget his wet feet? Not impossible. How many scientists or inventors have you heard of who were free from absent-mindedness. Many of them remember the most intricate details of complicated experiments and forget to wear their rubbers.

The newspapers spoke of the small metal plates as though they had been specially prepared for suicide. I contend they were specially prepared —but not for suicide. Why? Because about fifty of these plates, cut out of aluminum, the same size and shape, were discovered in the dead boy's room. Why fifty? Only two or three —or even four would have been necessary for suicide. Fifty of these all prepared gives one the reasonable impression that Talbert intended to do some extensive studying of his therapeutic theories with them—for some length of time. A man doesn't buy two hundred lassos to kill himself once or order a quart of iodine so he can froth at the lips.

Was Not Unemployed

The newspapers claimed he was despondent because unemployed. There was no one in Brooklyn as employed as young Talbert. He was busy from morning to night and I doubt if he wanted any other work. When he needed money for his experiments, he did odd jobs. Money was just a means to an end and he made it when he wanted it. His father denies the statement in the dailies that his son suffered mental agony because of his inability to find employment. This was a dramatic part of dramatic reading in the dailies which made very good copy.

Last of all, Talbert left no suicide note. His was a home life. His work kept him close to the house. His utter devotion to his mother made them close friends in spirit. His companionship with his father was great. It is hard to believe that had he been extremely despondent, they would have been ignorant of the fact. It is almost impossible to believe that he would have taken his life without leaving some note, some farewell to those he loved so well.

The wallet he treasured so preciously remains intact. I say that Edward Talbert who loved to solve the mysterious and was jealous of that love, would have destroyed what answers he had found had he known himself to be on the verge of death.

Police and newspapers may call it suicide. The life Edward Talbert lived—the death he died—the things he loved—give that theory the lie.

Lawyer's Suicide May Bar Title to Property

Death Robs H. E. Battle of His Key Witness in Iniunction Suit

WASHINGTON

Title to property at 1800 Fourth Street, Northwest, claimed by H. E. Battle, was disputed on Saturday when M. Grayson Rainey and his wife, Mrs. Dorothy H. Rainey, a school teacher, filed an answer to his suit saying the property belong to them.

As Eddie Beaubian, young lawyer, who would be the key witness in the litigation, committed suicide recently, Battle faces the difficulty of proving that the Raineys were acting as straws for him in transactions involving the property in question.

Name Missing

In their answer, the Raineys assert that Battle's name does not appear anywhere in the records in the office of the recorder of deeds as ever having had title to the property.

They declare they do not know whether Mrs. Hattie Pressley, a relative of Battle, and Beaubain ever held title to the property as straws for Battle.

They aver that Beaubian represented himself to them as the absolute owner of the property and told them he was anxious to sell it. Believing him and being in the market for a piece of property, they state they had the title searched and bought the property from him.

Sought Loan

They admit they atempted to obtain a loan on the property from a bank, but they deny that the loan was refused because they were straw owners. They admit they secured a loan of $500 on the property from a co-defendant, Joseph H. Greene, president of the Thrift Commercial Company.

Battle is seeking an injunction to restrain the Raineys from encumbering or conveying the property and Greene from collecting the rents. He also seeks to have the District Court to decree him to be the absolute owner of it.

17 Homicides In Atlanta Soar To 17

Woman Suspect Surrenders At Police Station

Henry Broughton, 30, of 413 Edgewood Avenue, N. E. was instantly killed early Tuesday evening, when shot once in the right side of the face about an inch from the temple and once in the right arm between the elbow and shoulder, according to city police.

Arrested in the shooting was Mrs. Sally Smith, 38, of Number 5 Brawner's Alley, NE.

Officers said the woman claimed to have shot the deceased when he advanced on her with a large switch-blade knife. They stated the dead man had the weapon in his hand when they answered a call and discovered his body lying on the kitchen floor of Number 3 Brawner's Alley.

PRONOUNCED DEAD

Broughton was pronounced dead on arrival at Grady Hospital. Mrs Smith walked to police station and gave up, it was stated. She was booked on a charge of suspicion of murder.

The arrested woman is understood to have claimed that Broughton had been "picking on" her for the past several days and that Tuesday night's advance on her caused her to protect herself with the gun. Several witnesses corroborated Mrs. Smith's claim in testimony to detectives, it was learned.

Hearing of the case in City Recorder's Court had not been set definitely Tuesday night, but it was estimated the case would probably come up in two or three days.

Former Choir Singer Fights For Her Life

Tragedy Brings Six Months Marriage To Abrupt End

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., March 1—(Special)—Aquillar Holmes, 39-year-old cafe entertainer, known in theatrical circles as the sepia "Edgar Bergan" is dead of bullet wounds while his wife, Susie, a former choir singer, is battling for her life at the Graduate hospital.

The murder and suicide was the result of a row between Holmes, said by many to be jealous crazed, and his wife in their apartment at 720 South Twenty-first street.

Wife Hit 4 Times

Holmes, a ventriloquist also known as "Broadway," fired four shots, all of which found their mark in his wife. As she lay on the floor the crazed man then turned the gun to his head and fired. He died instantly.

According to the story told police by Mrs. Josephine Moss, 20, of the same address and a cousin of the wounded woman, Holmes became enraged because his wife refused to give up her business as a beautician and go to Washington, D. C., with him. In the course of the argument, he drew the weapon and began firing. Mrs. Moss said her pleadings to Holmes were in vain. Also in the house at the time were Mrs. Mary Rooney, mother of Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Moss' husband.

Married Six Months

Holmes and his wife were married six months ago after a whirlwind courtship. She operated a beauty shop and was doing a lucrative business. Holmes, as a ventriloquist, had won the praise of critics because of his fine impersonation of Edgar Bergan and "Charlie McCarthy."

Mrs. Holmes was well known in social and church circles. She was a member of Holy Trinity Baptist church and formerly sang in the choir. Holmes is a native of Virginia and had been a resident of Philadelphia for 20 years. He served in the United States Army with a detachment in Cuba.

Ill Son Of Perry Howard Is Suicide

Socialite Blows Head Off With Shotgun; Illness Cited Cause

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Edward Lucas Howard, 25, well known Washington socialite and son of Perry Howard, National Republican Committeeman from Mississippi, committed suicide last Wednesday, by blowing off the top of his head with a 12-guage shotgun at his home, 1829 S. street, Northwest.

He was pronounced dead a few minutes later at the Emergency Hospital, at which time persons close to the family said he was despondent over ill health which had "dogged" him for several months.

Howard, known as Lucas to the socialites, had just eaten his dinner and made a telephone call to J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks, for his father and went upstairs to his room in the second floor.

His father was starting out the front door to keep the appointment with Wilson when he heard the report of the gun.

He rushed to his son's room, where he found the latter fatally shot. He had used the 12-guage Remington repeating shotgun with which to shoot himself in the head.

Young Howard was a graduate of Dunbar High School. He attended Wilberforce University for two years, where he played football. Later he came to Howard University, where he played guard on the Bison eleven for two years.

At one time he was employed at the recorder of deeds office, and later was employed as a clerk at the Census Bureau. For the last two years he had been unemployed.

Early last fall he was taken to Freedmen's Hospital for treatment. He remained there a short while and was transferred to Gallinger Hospital.

The night before his death he stayed at the Hollywood Cafe until about 2.30 A.M., and left in good spirits, according to friends. At the time of his death he was working in his father's law office.

He is survived by his father, Perry W. Howard, his mother, Mrs. Wilhelmina Howard; a brother, Perry, W. Jr., and a cousin, Andrew J. Howard Jr.

SUICIDE- 1940

WOMAN PNEUMONIA PATIENT KILLED IN JUMP OUT OF HARLEM HOSPITAL WINDOW

Charge Of Negligence Goes Unanswered As Hospital Heads Remain Silent

Down in the City Morgue lies the broken and bruised body of Mrs. Helen Taylor, 26-year-old Harlemite, still unclaimed because her husband, Knoltenious Taylor of 24 East 131st street, cannot raise money enough to claim the body.

The remains have rested on a slab in the morgue since Sunday, March 10th, when the woman died of multiple fractures sustained when she jumped from the third floor of Harlem Hospital.

At Harlem Hospital, the superintendent, Dr. Israel Magelener, and his assistants are silent and refer all inquiries about the death of Helen Taylor to Commissioner of Hospitals Goldwater. They refused to answer the following questions asked of them by reporters from The New York Age:

"1. Is it true that there was only one nurse on duty the night Helen Taylor, a pneumonia patient, walked to the window and jumped to her death in the courtyard below?

"2. Is it true that there was an attempt made to keep this suicide quiet because police of the 32nd and 25th Precincts did not know of it?

"3. Why was there only one nurse on duty in such a dangerous ward as the pneumonia ward where many patients are often delirious from the fever which racks their bodies?

"4. What will you do to prevent a recurrence of this tragedy which is not the first reported at the hospital?"

From the husband, reporters from The New York Age learned the story of the tragedy. Grief-stricken, he looked the picture of dejection as he told the story of the tragedy. Seven years ago, he and Miss Helen Kearney, a native of Suffolk, Va., were married. They came here and he worked as a band instrument and vocal teacher until finally he was forced to go on WPA rolls in order to make both ends meet. He is now a guard at a WPA tool house.

In the one-room and kitchenette apartment which they call home, Mrs. Taylor contracted a cold. On Friday, March 8th, after home remedies had failed, Taylor called Harlem Hospital and an ambulance was despatched to the scene. The case was diagnosed as pneumonia and Dr. Cave and Patrolman Bradley of the 32nd Precinct removed the ailing woman to the hospital where she was sent to Ward 3-B.

Says Wife Was Rational

Mr. Taylor visited his wife on Saturday, and when he saw her at 12 o'clock, he said, she was rational. She tossed and turned on the hospital bed in the same ward where some 50 other patients were said to be confined. Shortly before midnight, while only one nurse was said to have been on duty in the ward, Mrs. Taylor arose from her hospital bed and for reasons unknown rushed to the window from which she jumped to 136th street. Attendants at the hospital picked up the limp form of the woman and rushed her back into the hospital where her injuries were diagnosed as pelvic fractures, multiple internal fractures and shock. She died two hours later.

The husband was prostrated with grief when informed of the tragic death of his wife. The body was shipped to the city morgue immediately and since that time it has remained there while Mr. Taylor has tried to find enough money to provide a decent burial for his wife. There had been insurance policies, he said, but these had to be cashed in when they went on relief, and under his WPA wages he was unable to take out insurance.

And so while the husband is trying to raise the money to bury his wife, there lies in the City Morgue the broken and bruised body of a young woman, a suicide at Harlem Hospital — a suicide whose death could have been prevented had hospital authorities taken the simple and humane precautions of having enough nurses and attendants on duty at all times.

Hospital authorities remain mute in the face of the damaging charge of negligence and all inquiries are met with the reply "Under Section 29 all interviews and information to the press must be approved by the Commissioner".

Suicide's Name Is Mentioned In D. C. Property Dispute

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Title to property at 1800 Fourth Street, northwest, claimed by H. E. Battle, was disputed Saturday when M. Grayson Rainey and his wife, Mrs Dorothy R. Rainey, a teacher answered his suit saying the property belonged to them.

Battle is seeking an injunction to restrain the Raineys from encumbering or conveying the property.

As Eddie Beaubian, young lawyer who would be the key witness in the litigation, committed suicide recently, Battle faces the task of proving that the Raineys were acting as straws for him in transactions involving the property.

QUESTION TITLE

In their answer the Raineys assert that Battle's name does not appear anywhere in the records in the office of the recorder of deeds as ever having had title to the property.

They say they do not know whether Mrs. Hattie Pressley, a relative of Battle's, and Beaubian ever held title to the property as straws for Battle.

They aver that Beaubian represented himself to them as the absolute owner of the property and was anxious to sell it. Believing him and being in the market for property, they state they had the title searched and bought the property from him.

They admit they obtained a loan of $500 on the property from a co-defendant, Joseph H. Greene, president of the Thrift Commercial Company. However, they deny that they agreed that Greene should collect the rents and account to Battle. They say he was to account to them.

ASK OWNERSHIP DECREE

Battle is also seeking an injunction to restrain Greene from collecting the rents and to have the district court decree him the absolute owner of the property.

Battle says he bought the property on April 29, and took title in the name of Mrs. Pressley.

He says he had her to convey title to Beaubian, his attorney, as a straw, and that Beaubian in turn conveyed title to the Raineys as straws for him so that a loan could be obtained on the property after a loan on it had been refused to Beaubian.

YOUTH ENDS LIFE IN CRUDE HOME-MADE ELECTRIC CHAIR

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Mar. 14—A home-made electric chair—the construction of which was learned by a local youth while a student at Brooklyn Technical High School—was used to commit suicide last week by Edward W. Talbert, 29, in his home here.

Despondent because, for about two years, he was unable to get a job, young Talbert attached light wires in his bedroom to two small copper plates, held them against his head with an elastic band, and then turned on a switch to close the circuit. The full house current—110 volts—flashed through his brain.

Talbert's knowledge of electricity, police stated, was greater than that of anatomy. Ironically, instead of the electrocution he had planned, the current paralyzed his brain centers, rendering him unconscious. He actually choked to death.

The youth, a graduate of an electrical course at Brooklyn Tech lived at 272 McDonough street, this borough.

Suicide Verdict In Death of Man Whose Wife Left

DEC 13 1940

Henry Hughes, 52, barber shop porter, was found dying in his quarters in the rear of 4823 Fountain avenue Wednesday. A note and empty iodine bottle found in the room indicated that he committed suicide.

It was learned from his employer that he had expressed much despondency over his wife leaving him.

A daughter and two brothers Velma Battles, 310 Convent street Walter 4308 Fairfax avenue and Dan 4304 Fairfax Ave. were notified of his death.

Word was sent to the wife Rose Hughes, at Helena Arkansas, who left him 3 weeks previous, she returned.

A Coroner's verdict of suicide was returned in the case. The Love Funeral Home took charge of the remains.

Shell-Shocked Vet Takes Life

PHILADELPHIA — Constantly haunted by a ghost assailant, Charles Hipkins freed himself of his imagined tormentor, Thursday.

He drank a six-ounce bottle of Clorox cleaning fluid and then drained the contents of a quart jar of denatured alcohol.

Breathing heavily and near exhaustion, the 45-year-old World War veteran staggered into the home of Mrs. R. Ashby at 1830 Catherine Street panting, "someone is after me."

Flees Upstairs

Then while Mrs. Ashby went to the door to investigate, Hipkins fled up the steps and into the bathroom and with the macabre toast "the end, this is it." swallowed the cleaning fluid. Feeling in agony, Hipkins, a victim of shell-shock in France stumbled across the small room, grabbed the alcohol from a shelf, forced the entire contents down his tortured throat, and collapsed.

Seeing on one in pursuit of the victim, Mrs. Ashby told Deputy Coroner Thomas P. Trent, she followed him upstairs a few minutes later and screamed in horror when she viewed the body.

Hampton Wife a Suicide

BALTIMORE.—Mrs. Celestine Atkins Long, wife of Oscar Long, Baltimore Vocational School teacher, who was recently suspended, and daughter of the late Dr. William E. Atkins, committed suicide at her home in Hampton, Va., Mr. Long told the AFRO on Tuesday.

Suspicion that something was wrong in the Long household reached the AFRO on Monday morning when Dr. H. Binga Dismond, New York physician and a cousin of the deceased, asked the Baltimore AFRO to locate Mr. Long.

Brooded Over Illness

Daughter of Prominent Virginia Family

HAMPTON, Va. — Mrs. Celestine Atkins Long, youngest daughter of the late Dr. William E. Atkins, prominent physician and Mrs. Jones E. Atkins, took her own life Monday morning.

Dr. Paul J. Parker, coroner for Elizabeth City County, made an investigation and reported she died a suicide having inhaled carbon monoxide.

Mrs. Long was found dead early in the day in the bathroom of the family home at 142 North King Street, by her mother. In returning the verdict Dr. Parker said the deceased had been in ill health for several years and, in his opinion, suffered severely from depression.

Mrs. Long is reported to have removed some bedclothing from her room after she and her mother retired Sunday night, took them to the bathroom and made a pallet on the floor, locked the door and turned on the gas.

Dr. Parker said the door of the bathroom had to be forced open and that the gas was still turned on when the body was discovered.

Mrs. Long married Oscar Long, both graduates of Hampton Institute, and moved to Baltimore, Md. where her husband taught in the public schools. She made frequent trips to see her mother here.

The deceased was a sister of the late Mrs. Lillian Atkins Clark of Hampton and Philadlephia who was nationally known in medical and academic circles.

Funeral arrangements are awaiting arrival of other relatives.

Kills Estranged Wife, Then Takes Own Life

GOLDSBORO, N. C.—Failing to effect a reconciliation with his wife of a year from whom he had been separated since March 31, Clinton Jones, 23, fired three shots into her body and head then took his own life, last week.

The dead woman is Mrs. Christine Jones, 19. The shooting occurred in the 500 block of E. Spruce Street as Mrs. Jones accompanied by her cousin, Miss Annie B. Leggette, were enroute to the movies.

LIVED ON FARM

Since their separation, Jones had continued to reside on a farm in New Hope Township while the wife lived with relatives at 712 Devereaux.

The husband had apparently come to town for the sole purpose of having his wife to return. When she refused, the shooting followed. After pumping the bullets into his wife, Jones ran a short distance then shot himself.

State Employee, Jilted, Inhales Gas In Room

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Believed to have been brooding over being "thrown over" by a boy friend, Miss Helene Southern, of Philadelphia, attempted to commit suicide by inhaling gas in her apartment in the 600 block of Hamilton street, last Wednesday.

Miss Southern was found hovering between life and death by Miss Marsus Boswell, a convalescent, who also lives in the apartment house on Hamilton street. Her head was resting on a pillow in the oven of a gas stove and she was unconscious.

She was taken to the Harrisburg Hospital, where she remained unconscious for several days. Her father, William B. Southern, a Philadelphia salesman, was notified of his daughter's attempt on her life, rushed to Harrisburg, and engaged a room at the hospital where he could be at his daughter's side daily.

Miss Southern, who gave her age as 20 and worked as a file clerk in the Unemployment Compensation Division at 4th and Kelker streets, is said to have been keeping company with a man named Roland Lorenzo.

Persons close to Miss Southern said that she threatened to commit suicide by gas on a number of occasions. She made good the threat, it is alleged, when Lorenzo broke off with her.

Her father plans to take her back to Philadelphia when she is released from the hospital.

Double Funeral Rites Held For Sam Keys and Nephew in Baltimore

Well Known Business Man Killed Relatives, Committed Suicide; Buried Side by Side

BALTIMORE—Double funeral services were held Monday afternoon at Douglass Memorial Cosmopolitan Church, Madison and Lafayette Avenues, for Samuel W. Keys, well-known Baltimore and Washington business man, and his nephew, Edward I. Camp, 22.

Keys committed suicide last Thursday morning at his home in Washington a half-hour after having shot and killed young Camp, following a family quarrel.

Hundreds of persons jammed the church for the service and crowds surrounded the edifice on the outside. There were approximately 45 cars in the funeral procession.

Buried Side by Side

The pair were buried side by side in the Arbutus Memorial Park.

Surviving Mr. Keys are his widow, Mrs. Louise Keys, three sisters and two brothers. Camp leaves his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Camp; a brother, Samuel, and two sisters, Mrs. Clara Brown and Miss Callie Camp.

The double tragedy, which shook both Baltimore and Washington, took place about 4 o'clock last Thursday morning in Keys's Washington apartment, 1857 California Street, Northwest.

According to police, Keys had engaged in an argument with his niece, Miss Callie Camp, during which Keys allegedly slapped her. Miss Camp's brothter intervened, and during the altercation, Keys is reported to have drawn a gun and shot Camp above the heart. The latter died almost instantly.

Breaks Away

When police arrived, Keys ran into a bedroom, where he was caught by the officers. He broke away suddenly, grabbed a gun from beneath a pillow and shot himself in the head.

Keys was proprietor of Keys's Coffee Shop at 1853 Seventh Street, Northwest, in Washington. At one time he was manager of the Penn Hotel here, and had been a resident of Washington for the last eight years. His restaurant there, close to the Howard Theatre, is a popular rendezvous for theatrical and sporting figures.

Young Camp had been employed by the Lichtman Theatres Corporation in the capital city, for several years as doorman at various houses in that circuit. He formerly lived here in Baltimore and attended school here.